



# £20m REVAMP FOR MERRY HILL

Report by Heather Large

**MORE** leisure attractions, an expanded food court and larger stores form part of a five-year masterplan to revamp Merry Hill shopping centre.

Bosses from centre owner Intu have also vowed that parking will remain free for as long as they own the site.

Since Intu Properties bought a 50 per cent stake for more than £400 million last year, it has begun giving the shopping centre a facelift.

In recent months, the malls have been painted and new lighting installed to give it a brighter appearance.

Shoppers can also now connect to free WiFi following a six-figure investment in technology.

Intu Asset manager Nick Round said this was just the start. He revealed that a five-year programme was being drawn up for redeveloping and improving not just the shopping centre but also the retail parks and the nearby Waterfront.

This could include attracting more big restaurant chains as well as providing new leisure options.

Bosses also want to cater for stores which want larger premises – including Topshop and Topman, which will open a new two-storey branch near Debenhams next year.

## Exciting

Plans for the site are still at an early stage but Mr Round said it was 'an exciting time' for Merry Hill, saying the investment being made would be 'significantly more' than £20m.

Marketing manager Rob Pickersgill said they were keen to build on the good reputation of the shopping centre.

"It's a great shopping centre with great local tradition," he said. "Shoppers love the centre but the opportunity is there to do more – the only way is up."

Mr Round said they would continue to offer free parking despite calls having been made in the past by council bosses for charges to be introduced.

"The Intu policy is that, at our regional shopping centres, we don't charge for parking," he said. "I think charging for parking would be a disadvantage, people would go elsewhere."

"I am certain that while we own the shopping centre, we will not be charging for parking. There has been free parking for 25 years," he added.

Mr Round also revealed that plans for a revamp of the bus station at Merry Hill were being revived.

A previous £3m scheme was shelved by Dudley Council and Centro because of concern over high costs. But Mr Round confirmed the plans were being re-visited to see what improvements could be made.

Intu has already invested around £3m on improving car parks and roads around the centre.

## BLOCKBUSTER SCREEN BRINGS MOVIE MAGIC



Dudley Showcase General Manager Andrew Edwards is ready for a rush of movie fans eager to experience the giant screen

MOVIE fans in Dudley can now look forward to supersized viewings of the latest blockbusters.

Showcase Cinema at Castlegate Park has unveiled a 47-foot XPlus screen, only the eighth in the country.

Bosses say it provides crystal clear projection, ultra-sharp images and the sharpest 3D experience available.

The screen is the biggest in town and stretches almost twice the height of the Market Place Fountain.

Mark Barlow, General Manager of Show-

case's UK Theatres, said: "We believe cinema is about more than just watching a film, it's about an experience."

"XPlus delivers uncompromising sound and picture quality that bring films to life. Experience tells us it'll be a big hit with cinema-goers."

## Investment

Bosses at the venue off Tipton Road said the screen was part £10 million investment across the UK by Showcase.

Sound quality has been enhanced via Dolby

Atmos. Javier Foncillas, Dolby Laboratories Regional Manager for Western Europe said: "Dolby Atmos gives film directors and sound mixers the ability to precisely place and move sounds anywhere in a cinema. This creates the most realistic, engaging experience ever, making cinema-goers feel as if they are in the film."

The first film to be shown on the new screen is The Martian, directed by Ridley Scott and starring Matt Damon and Jessica Chastain.

Bookings are already being taken to watch new Bond movie Spectre on the XPlus screen.

## ROADS

### Six weeks of delays during pipe works

SIX weeks of roadworks will cause disruption on a major route through Dudley.

Balfour Beatty is carrying out work to gas pipes under Birmingham New Road and Sedgley Road West which will lead to lane closures.

Dudley Council said efforts would be made to reduce disruption with work at weekends, off-peak times and during school holidays. The works are due to start on Saturday and run until November 27.

Councillor Hilary Bills said: "This is essential work to ensure that people have a gas supply over the winter."

## SUPERMARKET

### Planners asked to visit pub site

PLANNERS should visit a pub in Cradley Heath before making a decision on an application to build a supermarket on part of the site, say officers.

New River Retail wants permission to demolish a garage on land next to the Haden Cross Inn, Halesowen Road, to make room for the shop and parking.

Sandwell Council planning committee has been recommended by officers to carry out a visit.

Objections include 50 letters and a petition with more than 500 signatures.

## BUILDINGS

### Council and police could share bases

DUDLEY Council could share buildings with West Midlands Police following proposed station closures by the force.

Stations in Dudley, Halesowen, Netherton, Stourbridge and Kingswinford are facing the axe to make £8.5 million savings.

Councillor Judy Foster told the Strategic Policing and Crime Board that it would be a good idea to discuss opportunities for 'collaboration'. Councillor Gaye Partridge added: "Sharing resources could also save the tax payer money."

More than 700 people have signed a petition launched by MP James Morris to save Halesowen Police Station.

## INSIDE

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# New society to put town on the map



Founder members of the new society

PLANS to establish a new civic society for Halesowen are underway with organisers vowing to act as a voice for the community.

Founder members including Halesowen and Rowley Regis MP James Morris, councillors Ian Cooper and Alan Taylor, Cornbow Centre manager Eve O'Connor, Leasowes Walled Garden and Abbey Trust campaigners Carol and Mick Freer, Halesowen College principal Keith

Bate and the college's Elaine Cammies, met to kickstart the plans.

They want to help boost business and tourism in the town, as well as giving residents the chance to have say on a variety of issues.

Elaine Cammies, who also works alongside adult learners at Halesowen College, said: "We are at the very early stages at the minute but I am extremely excited about raising the profile of Halesowen."

"We wanted to get on board key figures from the town, especially someone like Eve O'Connor who has made Halesowen look so stunning with In Bloom.

"It's almost like we're situated between Birmingham and other bits of the Black Country and people don't have a clue how great the town is, so we want to raise awareness of the fantastic stuff that goes on as well as improve our local assets."

# Knotweed killings could not have been foreseen

by Richard Guttridge

**THE death of a woman — killed by her husband before he committed suicide over fears Japanese knotweed was taking over their house — could not have been prevented, says a report.**

Sandwell Council launched an investigation following the deaths of Kenneth McRae and his wife Jane in Rowley Regis in 2013 to see whether support workers should have intervened. However, the Safer Sandwell Partnership decided that no lessons could be learned from the incident and there was no evidence there had previously been violence in the home on Bryan Budd Close.

The couple were found dead in July 2013 after Mr McRae's colleagues had not heard from him. Lab technician Mr McRae, aged 52, was found on the first floor, his wrists and throat cut, and Mrs McRae was found in bed on the second floor with head injuries.

## Perfume

An inquest last year ruled Mr McRae killed his wife before killing himself. It heard that 55-year-old Mrs McRae had 'lain dead for several days' prior to Mr McRae killing himself.

Mrs McRae had been hit over the head with a perfume bottle found at the scene. A suicide note left by Mr McRae revealed he had developed a 'growing madness' over Japanese knotweed, an invasive plant which is notoriously difficult to get rid of. He claimed it was creeping onto their property from a neighbouring golf course and he was concerned it would make their house unsellable.

A Domestic Homicide Review carried out by Sandwell Council said council support services could not have foreseen the deaths. The review found nothing to indicate that domestic abuse had taken place in the couple's relationship previously.

The report stated Mr McRae's concerns about Japanese knotweed 'did not explain his extreme action and no reason was found to blame any party or agency contacted about it'.

A Home Office panel judged the council's review as adequate.



Lab technician Kenneth McRae and his wife Jane were both found dead at their Rowley Regis home in 2013



Tragedy behind the blue door — the McRaes' home



The back of the house adjoins Rowley Regis Golf Course

# Police cuts to be eased by nearly £37 million

FUNDING cuts for West Midlands Police will be eased by almost £37 million after campaigners called on the Government to re-think.

Police and crime commissioner David Jamieson said pressure had convinced the Home Office to change its planned formula for funding forces, that would have disadvantaged the West Midlands and stripped it of more than half its budget.

Although big cuts still loom, the change means the second largest force in the country will get a 6.63 per cent share of police budgets, instead of the original 6.11 per cent. It is estimated that means the force's budget could be £470.5m, compared with the planned £433.6m, as long as no other drastic cuts are announced by the Chancellor.

Mr Jamieson said: "This is a victory for common sense. I would like to thank the media and politicians from across the political spectrum for joining me in a cross-party campaign to make sure that West Midlands Police gets a fair deal. The fight is not over.

"I will press the Government to make sure that this change is actually delivered in full as soon as possible and not delayed.

"West Midlands Police has faced double the cuts of other forces over the last five years and I'm determined to make sure that we are not disproportionately hit again.

"I won't be satisfied until we have actually received the money and will keep pressing until it is actually delivered."

# Bogus plumber stole from OAP

A THIEF posing as a plumber convinced a 96-year-old woman he was investigating a water leak — before rummaging through her bedroom and stealing a significant amount of cash and jewellery.

The callous crook splashed water on the bathroom ceiling to support his burst pipe story, and while the pensioner ate lunch he rifled through her belongings.

The theft happened on the Charlemont Farm estate in West Bromwich on October 7.

Sandwell Police Chief Inspector Sean Phillips, said: "It's hard to imagine someone could be so cruel as to trick a 96-year-old woman and rummage through her bedroom while she innocently sat downstairs eating lunch.

"It is truly despicable."

# Now men can get the New Look too

FASHION retailer New Look has opened its new store just for men at Merry Hill.

The outlet is just one of four across the country established by the high street clothes brand to sell menswear. Fifteen jobs have been created by the business at the shop in the Upper Mall.

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# New homes proposal is rejected at steel site

PLANS to build dozens of homes on a former steelworks site in Brierley Hill have been thrown out by councillors.

The proposals for the Cookley Works would have transformed the derelict land with the addition of 70 homes.

But Dudley Council has rejected the proposal on the grounds that access to the site would be dangerous.

The rejection notice sent out by the authority says the plans had 'insurmountable technical issues' and 'would have the potential to cause severe highway danger'.

Councillor Ken Finch said he was disappointed that development of the 'eyesore site' would not be going ahead.

He said: "The need for affordable housing in that particular area is great, as it is elsewhere.

"It's an eyesore site and doesn't do a lot for the image of the Black Country."

UKIP group leader Councillor Paul Brothwood was critical of the decision, saying the council should have worked with the developer to help iron out issues.

The Leys Road has been dormant since 2006. Developer Harris Lamb hoped to construct the homes forming a new community in Brierley Hill with around a third of the properties to be affordable housing.

Nearly 40 jobs were lost when Cookley Works was axed by steel giant Corus in 2006, bringing more than 150 years of steel making to an end.

# Inquest opens on teacher, aged 36

AN INQUEST has been opened on a 36-year-old teacher from Cradley Heath.

Anthony Joseph Morbach-Jenkins, of Red Brick Close, was found dead in Newtown Lane, Belbroughton on September 22.

Morbach-Jenkins was a teacher at St Peter's School in Solihull.

A message on the school's website read: "It is with great sadness that we have learnt of the sudden death of Mr Jenkins who taught at St Peter's from September 2009 to August 2015.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with his family."

The inquest has been adjourned to January 6, with the cause of Mr Morbach-Jenkins' death not yet established.

# Health group is holding meeting

THE next meeting of Dudley Clinical Commissioning Group is tomorrow (Fri). The committee, which makes decisions on GP services, meets at 1pm at the Brierley Hill Health and Social Care Centre in Venture Way.

# Councils helping to save hedgehogs



Hedgehog friendly Sandwell crew

DUDLEY and Sandwell councils have pledged to support campaigners in their efforts to protect hedgehogs in the Black Country.

Willows Hedgehog Rescue, dedicated to rehabilitation and release of native European Hedgehogs, has joined forces with councils to raise awareness of the dangers that brush cutters and strimmers can pose to the animals.

Hundreds of hedgehogs every year are seriously injured, sometimes fatally, by the use of trimmers or strimmers and many hundreds of hoglets

(young hedgehogs) are orphaned by gardening activities.

Darren Jones, of Sandwell Council's grounds maintenance, said: "Sandwell Council's grounds maintenance department is committed to safeguarding wildlife within the borough.

## Extensive

"We no longer apply weedkiller to, or trim the base of, our hedgerows. We also restrict the cutting back of hedgerows and shrubs to times outside the nesting bird season."

Charlie Walker, co-founder of Wil-

lows, added: "Our aim is to make all operators aware of the danger that strimmers can pose to wildlife."

Councillor Hilary Bills, Dudley's cabinet member for the environment, said: "During our extensive green care work across the borough we always take account of all wildlife habitat and their safety. We are happy to help Wil-

lows highlight this important issue."

A 'wildlife aware' warning triangle that will be fitted to all line and brush cutters in use.

For more information see the [www.willowshedgehogrescue.co.uk](http://www.willowshedgehogrescue.co.uk) website.

# Shock as store next door applies to demolish club

**A SOCIAL club in Halesowen is facing demolition to make way for a car park extension at the Lidl supermarket next door.**

The club's bosses have been left stunned after an application to knock down Halesowen Members Club on Hagley Road was submitted to Dudley Council without their knowledge.

The venue, which was previously known as the Halesowen Labour Club, is next to a Lidl shop and the supermarket chain is keen to create more parking spaces there.

The news has come out of the blue to workers at the club as well as the local community. The club's manager said he had been taken by surprise by the plans but declined to comment further.

Ward councillor Donella Russell said she was disgusted as the venue was still used by dozens of people in the area.

She said: "I'm not happy at all. I go into that Lidl and half the time it is empty anyway, you are always guaranteed a parking space there.

"I don't know why they want to knock down the Members Club, it is well used and does stuff in the day as well as at night.

## Busy

"It's always busy, there's always something on. As far as I'm concerned it's pretty successful. I know someone who is having a party there next year."

Councillor Russell said she was astonished that management had not been informed before the application to demolish the building was made public.

She said: "It's their livelihood. They should know — we should know."

Councillor Alan Taylor said: "I don't like things being done behind people's backs. I'm always an advocate that people should know what is happening."

Lidl has confirmed that its demolition plans concern the members club. Spokeswoman Laura Hamlin said the supermarket does not currently own the building but is in 'close communication' with the owner.

Westbourne Leisure, which owns the building, could not be contacted for comment.

Councillor Nick Gregory, who also represents Halesowen, said: "Personally, I wouldn't be in favour of it. There have been too many pubs and clubs closing recently. It has been there an awful long time and is still well used."

The Hagley Road supermarket opened on the site of the former Peugeot garage in January 2008.



The Halesowen Members Club, in Hagley Road, Halesowen, which Lidl want to turn into a car park

# M6 link work takes longer than expected

MOTORWAY roadworks which have caused chaos on surrounding roads for most of this year will now be completed six months later than expected.

Repair work on the link road off the M6 onto the M5 in West Bromwich should be complete by Christmas, Highways England has announced.

This is the second delay on the major works, which were

expected to be finished by June initially — then November.

Highways England blamed unforeseen circumstances for delaying waterproofing work on the ageing viaduct to December.

Walsall South MP Valerie Vaz called for a re-think to get the slip road re-open, and promised to raise it with a minister.

She said: "I am appalled that having raised this issue just after

the slip road was due to be open in May that we are still waiting. It is unacceptable that with their expertise they were unable to foresee this situation."

Highways England project manager Jess Kenny said: "We understand this has been frustrating for drivers. Unfortunately there was no way for us to tell the full extent of the damage until we'd already started work."

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Extra spaces for public at hospital

DOZENS of extra parking spaces will be created at Rowley Regis Hospital. Bosses it will help ease the strain on patients and residents who have complained about clogged roads.

Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust, which runs the site, wants to create a staff car park with up to 50 places on land at the back of the hospital, off Moor Lane.

It will free up existing spaces that are currently used by workers for patients and visitors.

It's part of a £2 million revamp of the hospital.

## Market seeking teenage traders

YOUNG entrepreneurs are being invited to book a place for a free stall to sell goods at Dudley's first Teenage Market Day.

The market on Saturday, October 31, in Stone Street Square, will feature up to 30 stalls and a stage for young performers to entertain shoppers.

Dudley Ambassador scheme is organising the market with funding from the European Regional Development Fund and Dudley Council.

To take part go to [www.theteenagemarket.co.uk](http://www.theteenagemarket.co.uk) website.

## Activities part of safety campaign

THE Safer 6 campaign team will be in Oldbury Civic Square next week.

The team will be in attendance from 10am to noon on Tuesday, October 20. Activities and services will include a fire engine, chip pan fire demonstration, police car, Sandwell Crime Prevention Panel bus — with community safety advice and freebies, and Neighbourhood Watch stall.

More information on the campaign is available at [www.sandwell.gov.uk/safer6](http://www.sandwell.gov.uk/safer6)

## Drivers face parking ban on clogged road

MOTORISTS are set to be banned from parking across pavements and grass verges in Cradley.

Dudley Council is considering introducing the parking ban on a section of Netherend Lane, near its junction with Apperley Way, following complaints from residents who say parked cars are clogging up the pavement.

But objections have been raised by other residents who fear the move will just move the problem to side streets.

## Choir sing at town hall

THE Viva Musica choir will take to the stage at Dudley Town Hall on Saturday for a Last Night of the Proms event with favourites such as Jerusalem and Land of Hope & Glory.

Guests include Sovereign Brass and choir from St Margaret's at Hasbury school. For tickets call 0121 550 5581.

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## THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



DRAMATIC puzzles of our time: Consider the grand staircase at Downton Abbey. Consider Lady Mary, as played by Michelle Dockery. Which is the more wooden?

EXPANDING the tortured issue of why pyjamas have pockets, a lady writes: "I bought myself a lovely pair of trousers and found a small zipped pocket in the waistband. I asked my granddaughter if she'd ever seen anything so daft because you couldn't keep much money in it. She replied, 'Nan, it's a condom pocket.' I am 83 and a little shocked."

A READER asks: "Is it safer to smoke inside a VW than to stand behind one when its engine is running?"

JUST supposing you had voted for Jeremy Corbyn as Labour leader, seen his victory on September 12 and then gone on a long holiday. Away from it all, you'd have been jubilant at helping to elect a potential prime minister who would scrap Trident, abolish tuition fees, nationalise the energy industry, quit the "capitalist" EU, refuse to kneel to the Queen and proudly wear the white poppy of pacifism on Remembrance Sunday. Then you come home to find all those things are either off the agenda or up for discussion. If Corbyn can move so far in less than a month,



where will he be as the 2020 General Election looms? On the Tory benches, at this rate.

IT was, of course, very, very wrong for 60-somethings Peter Marsh and Gillian Green, having eaten some cherries, to leave a handful of discarded stones on the soil under a tree in Canterbury. They were caught by two council enforcement officers and slapped with a pair of £80 fixed-penalty fines. In the finest traditions of interrogation, the officials separated the couple in order to question them. So what would have happened if the pair had linked arms and refused to be separated? What level of force is considered appropriate against elderly pip-droppers who decline to be interviewed separately? At what stage do the officials send for armed back-up and start pepper-spraying or tasing them?

**Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star**

# Schools being urged to fly the Union flag

**SCHOOLS in Dudley will be encouraged to fly the Union Flag and get pupils to sing the national anthem during their assemblies after plans were passed.**

The proposals – put forward by UKIP Councillor Paul Brothwood – were labelled 'playground politics' also 'populist' and 'pointless' during a debate at Dudley Council.

Council leader Councillor Pete Lowe said the authority could not tell schools what they can and cannot do and Conservative Councillor Les Jones also took issue with the idea, criticising its 'populist' nature.

Yet the motion was unanimously agreed.

"As a group we felt it was important to put this forward and it's great we've got cross-party support," he said. "Hopefully we'll see a few more Union Jacks flying around the borough now."

During the debate on Monday night, most speakers from all political persuasions said they supported the idea in principle but the point was repeatedly raised that the council could not enforce the idea on schools.

Councillor Lowe said: "It's absolutely common sense that all of us want to promote patriotism and the Union Flag."

"I've got no problem supporting the fact the flag should be raised but we've got no control over schools. This is a good example of playground politics. It's just a motion that will have no impact."

Korean War veteran Councillor Ken Finch said he was 'proud to be British but embarrassed by this motion'. He added: "We do fly the flag, we do honour the Queen, but the reason I feel embarrassed is that I don't need to be told by anyone what I'm supposed to do."

Councillor Jones said: "It's easy to put a populist plan on an agenda. But it has no bearing on what we do as councillors. It's pointless and we've got better things to do."

"We should be here talking about what matters to the people of this borough."

West Midlands MEPs James Carver and Bill Etheridge will now launch a drive calling on all schools in the region to fly the Union Flag. Mr Carver, UKIP's Commonwealth spokesman, said: "The passing of this motion was fantastic news and I now urge local schools to proudly fly the Union Flag and sing the national anthem."

## Pucker up for a kiss mum



Orang utan Sprout gives her mother Jazz a smacker

DUDLEY Zoo Bornean orang utan Sprout gave her mum an extraordinary kiss – Spider-Man style!

The magical moment, which mirrored the famous kiss from the hit 2002 Hollywood blockbuster Spider-Man, was captured on camera by zoo regular Kathryn Willett.

The Dudley Zoo member and amateur photographer was thrilled with her stunning snap of Sprout puckering up for mum Jazz while hanging upside down.

And the head over heels in love image has amazed keepers who said they had not seen behaviour like it from four-year-old Sprout before.

### Mischievous

Head of Upper Primates Pat Stevens said: "I've never seen Sprout in such a position, never hanging upside down and she's not normally that affectionate."

"She's certainly mischievous and naughty and only normally goes up to cuddle her mum for reassurance after she's been told off!"

"Kathryn's picture is just outstanding. She always seems to be there at the right moment."

## £150m NEC resort to open doors for public

THE £150 million Resorts World Birmingham will open its doors for the first time next week.

Wednesday, October 21, will see the resort on the National Exhibition Centre site coming to life with retailers including Next Outlet, Nike Factory Store and GAP Outlet opening.

Over following weeks Resorts World Birmingham will gather momentum as more and more of the resort's outlet shops, bars, restaurants and other facilities welcome guests.

The 11-screen Cineworld, which includes a purpose-built IMAX auditorium, will open on October 23 in time for the eagerly-awaited new James Bond movie Spectre, while the four star Genting Hotel will welcome guests from November 2.

There will be 18 bars and restaurants at Resorts World including TGI Friday's and Pizza Express and new names such as the Robata Bar and Grill specialising in Asian cuisine, the New York influenced High Line Bar and Lounge and the World Bar located opposite the Genting Arena.

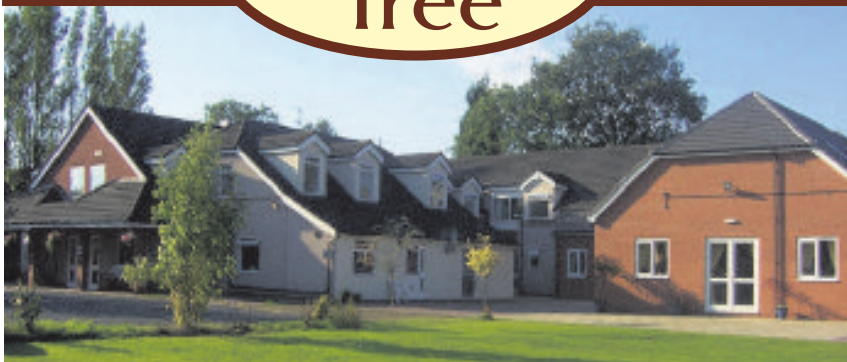
Resorts World Birmingham will also play host to the Genting International Casino which opens on October 26, as well as conference and banqueting facility the VOX.

Latest information on [www.resortsworldbirmingham.co.uk](http://www.resortsworldbirmingham.co.uk) website.

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Dorothy Horton 'crowned' by Mayor John Davies in Boulton Square on June 2, 1953



Wesley Methodist Church in 1906 with a new frontage



The unveiling of the town's first war memorial at the Victory Club in 1919

# Popular Price town history book draws 2,000 to launch at church

**MORE** than 2,000 history buffs took a trip down memory lane at the launch of a new book celebrating the history of West Bromwich.

People packed into Wesley Methodist Church, in High Street, on to pick up a copy of the book, called *West Bromwich Remembered*.

It has been researched and written by historian Terry Price, aged 76, and features more than 300 images of the town and surrounding areas in days gone by.

Mr Price was on hand at the launch to sign copies of the book and answer any questions.

And he was joined at the event by historian and Express & Star columnist Professor Carl Chinn who chatted with visitors for more than three hours.

People shared their stories of the town in the past and looked through the book reminiscing over old times and pointing out people they knew.

## MEMORY LANE

Report by Lee Watton

ple they knew. Around 1,500 copies of the book were sold at the launch event which Mr Price said was 'absolutely fantastic'.

Among the images in the book, which has taken around two years to compile, is a shot of the Lewisham Hotel taken in 1961. It is now the Desi Junction.

Other selections include events that took place in the town to celebrate the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II on June 2, 1953, such as Dorothy Horton being crowned by West Bromwich mayor John Davies in Boulton Square.

Another shows bomb damage in Clive Street during the Second World War and the unveiling of the town's first war memorial in 1919. There are also photographs of Wesley Methodist Church, which was the venue for the book launch, as seen at different stages throughout its history.

Mr Price, who has self-published the book, said he was delighted with the reception it had received.

"We had around 2,000 people come through during the day and around 1,500 copies were sold. It was absolutely fantastic," he said.

## Stories

"Carl chatted to residents and also signed the books. People shared their stories of the town with us both. It was a lovely event."

People unable to attend the launch can still get a copy of the book by calling Mr Price on 01922 635891, and it is available to anyone who inquires for the discount price of £9.99.

It is the eighth volume to have been written by Mr Price since 2000 – and his last, at least for the time being.

"I think this will be the final book I will do. I have said this after the last few volumes, but people have since convinced me to do another. So I never say never," he said. "However I think I am ready to retire from it now. I am really pleased people have enjoyed all my books so much and they have definitely built up a following."

"If I do change my mind and decide to write another I am going to take a nice long rest first."

His previous works include three volumes on Great Bridge with the remaining books focusing on West Bromwich.

Mr Price, who worked as a TV engineer for many years, said it took around two years to research and compile the books.

Mr Price said he had been interested in history since he was at school and his parents had nurtured this.

"Really my interest in history stems from my parents," he said.

"They were born in 1897 and 1899 so they were able to tell me a lot about what the area was like during the early part of the 20th century when they were growing up."

Mr Price said donations would be made to charities in the area from the proceeds of the book.



The fire service of 1882 at Crowthers Yard, Paradise Street



Terry Price with Professor Carl Chinn, guest at the launch

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IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews



Half-baked celebrity television treatment

A NEW business operating in the West Midlands is offering a table service with a difference, staffed entirely with "top-less or semi-naked butlers". The muscle-bound beefcakes pictured in the adverts aren't really my thing, but I'm prepared to be tolerant. As long as it's an equal opportunities employer, of course.

MUCH as I hate the nanny state telling us what to do, I dutifully complied and headed for Tesco at the weekend with a "bag for life" dangling off the hook at the back of my trolley. And after less than 10 minutes in the store, having left the trolley unattended for just a few seconds, it was gone.

Bags for life? Mine lasted one week.

AS Alan Sugar returns for another series of The Apprentice, he has immediately stepped into controversy by saying that nobody in the UK can truly describe themselves as poor if they have got mobile phones, microwave ovens and televisions.

Yes, it might stick in the craw being lectured on poverty from a billionaire. And he didn't help himself with his ignorant, geographically prejudiced aside that there may be "some people up north who are poor". But he is right, isn't he?

Mobile phones, microwaves and flat-screen TVs are all luxury items which we all managed perfectly well without just a few years ago.

I'm sure there are some genuinely poor people in the UK, and as a country we have a duty to give them all the support they need. But not many.

Many of the people who claim to be poor today would have been considered comfortably well-to-do just a generation ago, and struggling to pay for life's luxuries is not the same as living in poverty.

Describing everybody who simply happens to be on a below-average income as "poor" not only cheapens the word. It is also a grave insult to those who truly are in need.

MEANWHILE, on Sunday BBC2 screened a programme about the history of Aston Martin. Now had it been fronted by a motoring expert, somebody who knows, for example, that you can't describe a car from the 1960s as 'vintage', then it would probably have been very good.

But it wasn't. It was presented by Paul Hollywood, who is a baker. So there was very little fresh insight into the subject matter, but a lot about him.

I know everyone is obsessed with the 'Bake Off' at the moment, but does every programme really need the celebrity treatment? Once in a while, it would be nice to hear from somebody who actually knows what they are talking about.



Proud of his roots, Oldbury's Frank Skinner



Wednesbury poet laureate, Brendan Hawthorne



Acclaimed Walsall poet, solicitor, Ian Henery



Walsall's most famous son, Noddy Holder

Showing the world how to spake proper

Ar, it's bostin' to be a Black Country mon, or wench, says CLARE BUTLER, as our unique dialect is celebrated

OW am ya? Fancy a loff and a chance to show the world ow ter spake proper?

The Black Country dialect – it's bostin' ay it? And now our most popular sayings and slang terms are coming under the spotlight in National Dialect Weekend.

This year it will be Wednesbury hosting the annual event, with activities this week and over the weekend, featuring live music, stories and poems showcasing the huge range of English dialects.

The dulcet tones of Scousers, Mancunians, Mackems and Geordies will be ringing out alongside the Black Country tongue. Not, of course, to be confused with the neighbouring Birmingham accent.

There is nothing worse for a proud Black Country mon than being labelled a Brummie.

The accent often gets labelled 'thick', wrongly and unfairly. There's a certain knowing quality to a line delivered in a Black Country twang. Take comedian Frank Skinner, for instance. "When I was a kid I ran everywhere. Do kids still run these days? I thought all that glue sniffing might have slowed them down," he says.

Snooty

In the cut glass, received pronunciation tones of a London toff it would sound snooty, prejudiced and ignorant. But we know what Oldbury-raised Frank's saying. He's one of us.

Or how about Noddy Holder's old Banks's beer advert. "You can save your thankses, I'll have a pint of Banks's." Grammatically it should have every English teacher screaming.

But not around here, it makes perfect sense. This year's National Dialect Weekend takes place from October 16 to 18. Dialect experts from around the country will be sharing their traditions and taking part in competitions and entertainment at Wednesbury Town Hall, featuring the first official Poet Laureate of Wednesbury, Brendan Hawthorne. The festivities kicked off last week, with a play, An Ox's Tail, which was performed by its author, Walsall poet, and solicitor, Ian Henery.

Brendan says: "The richness of language is to be celebrated and what better stage



The famous sign from some years ago, at roadworks in Dudley – can you understand the message?

**SOME FAVOURITE WORDS AND SAYINGS**

<b>Bostin</b> – meaning 'something to boast about', it's brilliant	<b>Noggin</b> – head	<b>Blarting</b> – crying or sobbing
<b>Aer kid</b> – friendly term for a family member, typically a younger sibling	<b>Havin a loff</b> – sharing a joke with your mates	<b>Babby</b> – baby, often shortened to bab, as an alternative to 'love' or 'dear' as in 'ow bin ya, bab?'
<b>Argy-bargy</b> – having an argument or disagreement	<b>Ow bin ya?</b> – first thing you say when meeting your friend in the pub to ask how they are	<b>It's a bit black over Bill's mother's</b> – the sky in the distance is dark with rain
<b>Mucker</b> – a close friend	<b>Round the Wrekin</b> – taking the long way round	

than the recently refurbished Town Hall in Wednesbury. We have a line-up of Black Country-based entertainment on Friday, starting at 7pm. We have competitions, followed by an evening of national entertainment on Saturday from 10am until 10pm and a guided walk on Sunday morning with local historian Ian Bott, meeting at 9.30am at Wednesbury Town Hall. Come along it'll be bostin'."

National Dialect Day began over 10 years ago by the then Chairman of the Lancashire Society Sid Calderbank who enjoyed travelling around the country performing Lancashire di-

lect songs and stories. Other dialect enthusiasts showed an interest and got involved and it became an annual event. Now extended to a weekend it travels round the country celebrating the best of Britain's dialects. As a precursor to the weekend, Brendan organised three events under the title A Street Full of Dialect at Wednesbury Library, looking at dialects from further afield.

The first was last Wednesday and involved Chinese dance, literature and songs performed in Mandarin and Cantonese by the Chinese Community Centre of Birmingham, with ex-

tracts of the play An Ox's Tail. The weekend itself will feature the best Black Country fiddle – faggots and peas, 'grey paes un baercon' with a vegetarian option if pre-ordered.

There will be a presentation on 'The Merican Tung' and a trophy for the best piece of writing in the Black Country dialect. It's 18 years since Dudley Council decided to lighten the mood for drivers caught in the roadworks at Castle Gate with a sign that said: "If yowm saft enuff ter cum dahn 'ere agooin wum, yowr tay ull be spile't!!"

It didn't really matter that anyone visiting from almost anywhere else in the country wouldn't have had a clue what it meant.

The thing about the Black Country dialect is that we've always known what it is we're saying, even if no-one else does.

Now at least, on home turf, we can pit ourselves against the pretenders who claim theirs is the best dialect in Britain.

We know we'm bostin', now it's toime to shew it aer kid.

\* For further details and to register an interest in the National Dialect Weekend email [Brendan.Hawthorne@moon-crow@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:Brendan.Hawthorne@moon-crow@blueyonder.co.uk)

SO, how well do you know the Black Country dialect? A little quiz for you...

1. What is a 'wench'? A) An adjustable spanner B) A woman C) A mood
2. What is a 'cakehole'? A) A bakery B) A tin C) A mouth
3. If one is admiring another person's 'clobber', what are they referring to? A) Clothes B) Fighting skills C) Tools
4. If it's 'bostin' it is... A) Broken B) Great C) At bursting point
5. What is a 'bob-owler'? A) A moth B) A horn C) An alarm D) A hat
6. A 'cut' is what? A) An injury B) A cake C) A canal
7. 'Donnies' are what? A) Hands B) Kebabs C) Men
8. If someone is 'yampy' they are... A) Mad B) Whiney C) Sad
9. If someone is 'half-soaked' they are... A) Violent B) Drunk C) Slow-witted or lazy
10. A 'fizzog' is what? A) A face B) A sweet C) A drink

ANSWERS: 1. B; 2. C; 3. A; 4. A; 5. B; 6. A; 7. A; 8. A; 9. B; 10. A.

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## Maintenance not monuments needed

REGARDING the artist's impression of the sculpture at the Grange Road Island to cost in excess of £35,000.

Whilst this island is certainly in need of urgent improvement, I doubt that such a sculpture will 'be an improved image for motorists on their way into town'. How will it allow visibility for drivers?

Many of the traffic islands and central reservations in and around Halesowen are neglected.

The islands at the top and bottom of Mucklow Hill have grass growing through

the surface, weeds and grass should be cleared from the central reservation on the A456 and along The Queensway into Halesowen. This would surely create an improved image.

If such routine maintenance work cannot be carried out due to lack of funds, why should the public of Halesowen be expected to rise to an appeal to fund a sculpture commissioned by the Chamber of Trade without public consultation?

**J SMITH**  
Halesowen

## Car parks could be free

JUST who do Sandwell Council think they are trying to fool? The car parks used to be free and were extensively used by shoppers.

Sandwell Council made them 'pay and display' car parks with the result that they then became less well used and, now, surplus to requirements.

If these car parks were once again made to be free, the car parks would, once more, be extensively used and traders might see an increase in their customer base. Cradley Heath is already a dying shopping centre with many empty shop units. The Tesco car park is for its customers.

The whole exercise was instigated by Sandwell Council to provide justification for selling off the land.

Shoppers with cars are going to shun pay car parks when they were once free.

**M WALKER**  
Cradley Heath

## Will he mind anachronism?

PETER Rhodes complains about the linguistic anachronisms of Downton Abbey. Perhaps he should turn his attention to an author who presents historical figures using language from years after their time. What are we to make of an author who presents King Henry V at Agincourt (1415) and King John (reigned 1199-1216) speaking the English of the late 16th Century? Absurdly he depicts Gaius Julius Caesar, assassinated 44BC, speaking English. This blunderer was some bloke from Stratford.

**A T HARRISON**  
Walsall

## Memories of eccentric pub crimes

YOUR recent letter concerning the Gipsys Tent pub brought back memories of when it was owned and run by the wonderfully eccentric brothers Don and Bert Millard.

The lure of cheap rough cider and a clientele of local eccentrics and students gave rise to many happy if hazily remembered nights at the Gipsys Tent.

Bannings were a regular occurrence for crimes such as attempting to play the stools as bagpipes and, the most heinous of all, putting coal on the fire without permission.

Thankfully most bannings came with a fixed time limit according to the severity of the 'crime' — although local folklore has it that Robert Plant, the local rock star, was banned for life.

Although the atmosphere of the pub could never be recreated, it would be nice to keep the exterior facade as a reminder to the many people with fond memories of this wonderful pub.

**D BAILEY**  
Oldbury

## Doesn't MP support cuts from his own Government?

I SEE James Morris MP is back with his double standards. He has a petition against the closure of Halesowen police station. These closures are as a result of the cuts, which he and his Government voted for! If he really had our interest at heart, he would have fought to have more funding not cuts twice as deep as in low crime areas. What does he suggest the police do, cut down even more on officers?

**MS B MCQUILLAN**  
via email

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### POST

Dudley Chronicle,  
Chronicle Editorial,  
51-53 Queen Street  
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

### EMAIL

dudley.chron@  
expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

## Wolves scout was a true football man

I WAS saddened to read of the passing of former Wolves talent scout Geoff Blackwell, a football man who loved the game and had great enthusiasm for it.

Geoff spent many years as a scout for the academy as well being a valuable member of support staff, always willing to help the Wolves operation, be it scouting or driving players to and from the airport for the club.

It was always a pleasure to spend time in Geoff's company and enjoy conversation, the only topic being football.

I used to listen intently to the many stories on what life was like working with Ron Jukes and other football personalities.

Not only did he know the

professional game inside out he also knew the non-league scene inside out too.

I remember being introduced to Geoff by the then Wolves academy director Chris Evans for the first time one evening down at Aldersley Stadium and straight away he said 'you're the Halesowen Town physiotherapist'.

He had obviously spotted me on his visit to the Grove to watch players — an eye for detail if ever there was one. We started talking football and from that day on he became a valuable friend and colleague.

A true football man and Wolves through and through.

**GAVIN BLACKWELL**  
Tipton

## Impressed by care shown to an elderly customer

I WAS Hawne Sub Post Office when an elderly lady became faint and would have collapsed had she not been supported by myself and another customer. How impressed I was by the care and help offered by the post office staff and by staff from Hawne Chemists next door, who even took the lady home. It is these kinds of local business which make Halesowen such a pleasant place to live.

**MRS NIKKI COPITCH**  
Halesowen

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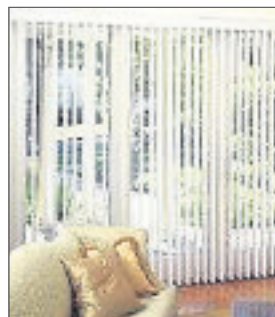
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Celebrating all things LEGO, BRICK creates a haven for fans of all ages with amazing builds, interactive features and live LEGO building as well as some amazing LEGO models that have never been seen in the UK before.

Master builder and founder of BRICK 2015 Warren Elmore will be bringing the Wonders of the World to the NEC including likes of the Great Wall of China, Stonehenge and the Grand Canyon. There will also be amazing creations from professional LEGO builders Bright Bricks, who will be bringing a life-size woolly mammoth and sabre-toothed tiger that have to be seen to be believed.

More than three million LEGO blocks in huge 'BRICK Pits' will encourage people of all ages to play and start building their own creation or they can help work on a larger build.

There's also the world's biggest consumer gaming area for the new LEGO Dimensions video game, a live stage filled with LEGO themed family fun, Guinness World Record attempts, a fantastic LEGO shop from Toys'R'Us, a LEGO Museum and a brilliant range of LEGO gifts and collectibles in BRICK Lane.

BRICK 2015 will be held from Thursday, October 29 to Sunday November 1 at Birmingham's NEC. Ticket prices start at £20 in advance with some VIP tickets still available. For more information as well as booking details, visit [www.brick2015.com](http://www.brick2015.com)



A woolly mammoth created entirely from bricks will be one of the attractions



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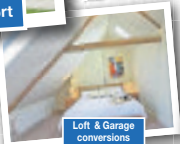
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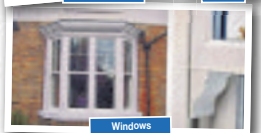
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# Debut by Black Country rockers

## ALBUM REVIEWS

by Leon Burakowski

**BLACK** Country band EoFE (so-called because the name East of Eden was already taken) are maturing nicely with a muscular rock sound on their eponymous album that could appeal to Slam Dunkers into the likes of You Me At Six.

Originally EoFE were a rather awkward-looking outfit pitched towards a pop audience, getting their first break supporting McBusted. I remember a bizarre mash up of Billie Jean with Smells Like Teen Spirit at the LG Arena.

But they've beefed up and their debut LP is aimed at an audience with real tattoos rather than wash-off tats. What they still miss, however, is a killer tune, though Y.O.U and Ruins come close. Dudley's Tom Harris is a decent singer, the songs have good melodies and the guitars crash nicely. But this won't be the breakthrough.

Brummie rock legends **Duran Duran** return with their 14th studio album, **Paper Gods**, with a whole host of guest stars and a sound that is contemporary whilst also nodding to their 80s roots.

It's a patchy offering rather than a rip-roaring return to form but has brilliant flashes of the old Duran Duran magic. These include synth and strings genre Face For Today and fine vocals by Simon Le Bon on What Are The Chances and The Universe Alone (hints of Ordinary World melancholy).

The highly infectious single Pressure Off benefits from Nile Rodgers contributing choppy Chic-style guitar, a vocal from Janelle Monae (her second great guest appearance after Paolo Nutini's last album) and a liberal sprinkling of Mark Ronson's Uptown Funk influence.



Black Country band EoFE with Tom Harris of Dudley (centre) have a self-titled debut

Other guests include Kiesza on Last Night In The City and Lindsay Lohan on the dismal Danceophobia (it sounds like a title Peter Andre would come up with). But best female vocal comes from the band's own backing singer Anna Ross, given a chance to shine alongside Le Bon on Butterfly Girl.

Duran Duran return to their home city on December 4 for a gig at the Genting Arena.

Essex band **Nothing But Thieves** have already got the stadium-ready rock anthems on their impressive self-titled debut and benefit from a barnstorming vocal performance from singer Conor Mason, whose emoting is on a par with Matt Bellamy. In fact the Southeast lads supported Muse at their big Rome show.

The fiery, yearning Itch shows the five-piece at their best while other highlights include slinky rocker Drawing Pins, the operatic Excuse Me, pus Painkiller and If I Get High.

Check them out if you like Muse or Florence and the Machine, and catch them live at The Rainbow in Digbeth on October 28.

Summer festival favourites **Rudimental** pack solid beats and have an awesome array of guest singers (from rising star Ella Eyre to reggae veteran Max Romeo) on **We The Generation** but their second album lacks character, sounding like a club compilation. Ed Sheeran provides highlights with Blood Stream and Lay It All On Me.

**New Order** return with their first album in ten years, **Music Complete**, having lost one member (bassist Peter Hook) and regained an old one (keyboardist Gillian Gilbert). The album has contributions from The Chemical Brothers, Iggy Pop, Brandon Flowers and La Roux's Elly Jackson but that doesn't dilute its New Order feel.

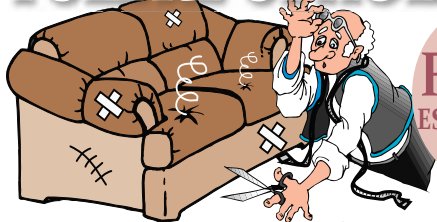
Singularity hints at Joy Division darkness, People On The High Line recalls Hacienda hedonism and The Game is elegant electro-pop. New Order are in concert at Wolverhampton Civic Hall on November 24.

Sheffield's **Richard Hawley** returns to what he does best, mellow, moody and melancholy ballads with a 50s twang on **Hollow Meadows**. He's at The Institute in Digbeth on October 27.

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# Black Country law firm's celebration of 140 years

BLACK Country law firm Higgs & Sons celebrated its past and looked to the future as it hosted two events to mark its 140th anniversary.

Around 500 guests joined the solicitors at events at the Black Country Living Museum in Dudley and the Library of Birmingham.

"Celebrating 140 years is a special occasion for any organisation," said Paul Hunt, managing partner.

"We are extremely proud of our Black Country roots and we have always enjoyed a strong connection with Birmingham and the wider West Midlands. These events reflect and celebrate this affinity to our region and the part we have played in its development over the past 140 years."

Higgs & Sons' anniversary events were organised around the theme of 'proud of our past, passionate about

our future' and the museum event celebrated the firm's heritage, with guests able to go back in time to experience the region as it was at the time of Higgs' founding.

The Birmingham event looked more to the future at the iconic new library at Centenary Square.

"We have come a long way since 1875," said Nick Moxon, senior partner at the firm who addressed guests at the event. "We are now over 240 strong with a full range of legal services all housed in our state of the art headquarters at the Waterfront in Brierley Hill.

"Higgs & Sons has seen continual growth throughout its history and as we celebrate our 140th anniversary with clients and colleagues from across the region and beyond, the firm is in an excellent position."



Guests Juliette Smith, Sarah Moss, Julia Lowe, Lucy Obrey and Jo Denning meet a vintage policeman

# Beauty spot left in mess by travellers

TRAVELLERS left a trail of damage at a nature reserve in the Black Country. Plastic bags, excrement and a wrecked caravan were among the rubbish left at Bumble Hole Nature Reserve.

Between 30 and 40 caravans pitched up on land off St George's Road on September 29 and spent a week at the site, before finally leaving last Tuesday night.

Visitors to the beauty spot have been left angered by the state the conservation area has been left in.

Mike Bradshaw, of nearby in Gads Green Crescent, said: "The mess is quite horrific, there is excrement and it is a health hazard."

Netherton's Councillor Elaine Taylor said: "It is a beautiful area that is well-used by all of our neighbouring areas in both Dudley and Sandwell, and it has been desecrated by all of this rubbish."

Talks with the travellers failed to persuade them to move on but by the time Dudley Council went to serve a notice the travellers had gone. Councillor Gaye Partridge said: "We were forced to apply for a court order. The order can and will be used, should they return."

# Killer put behind bars again after pub attack

A CONVICTED killer who launched a savage attack on a vulnerable woman outside a Netherton pub is starting a 28-month jail sentence.

Michael Cameron, who had killed a young man in a similar incident in 2007, struck again outside The Hope Tavern during the early hours of April 25.

The 26-year-old punched Kelly Griffiths after an argument at the pub before turning on her friend Michelle Claridge when she tried to halt the violence. Wolverhampton Crown Court heard on Thursday.

Cameron then rained further blows down on the disorientated Miss Griffiths while ignoring further pleas to stop, said Mr Paul Farrow prosecuting.

Mr Devon Small, defending, said: "He has seen CCTV of the incident and is sickened by his actions."

"He has not been to a pub since this incident and wants to apologise to both victims for what he did."

"He is not proud of his criminal record at all and had been putting his life back in order by staying out of trouble for three years."



Jailed — Michael Cameron

a pub in Rowley Regis eight years ago. The victim hit his head on the pavement after being felled by the blow.

Cameron had been drinking in The Chaplin pub with friends, members of the DJ Slew Gang of Netherton.

He landed a ferocious blow to the face of 19-year-old victim Richard Blake-way. Cameron was jailed in 2008 for a total of 34 months.

Judge Parker said: "All your offending involves violence and it is an unhappy fact that you caused someone's death in 2007."

He concluded that the defendant presented a risk to the public and ordered that he be monitored on licence for 32 months longer than usual.

## Disturbing

Cameron, a barber from The Shrubbery, Eve Hill, pleaded guilty to two assault charges.

Jailing him, Judge Alan Parker who told him: "This was a determined and disturbing attack in which you hit one of the women many times to the head over several minutes."

"You pursued her and persisted in your attack."

Cameron killed a man with a single punch outside

# Big bill for fly-tipper

A FLY-TIPPER has been ordered to shell out more than £600 for illegally dumping rubbish on land in Netherton, after he had been paid to dispose of it properly.

Andrew Pargeter, of Stretton Place, Netherton, had been contacted via Facebook and paid to remove the waste by a resident. But the 46-year-old dumped the bags of household waste on the Old Railway Walk, off Stretton Place.

Dudley Council staff were asked to remove the rubbish and managed to trace it back to the original owner.

Pargeter admitted three charges at Dudley Magistrates Court, on October 1, including not being a registered waste carrier, dumping the waste and failing in his duty of care in handling and disposing of the waste. He was fined £250 plus £295 costs and £75 in compensation.

Councillor Hilary Bills, cabinet member for environmental services, said: "This sends out a clear message that if you blight our beautiful borough with rubbish, it can lead to a costly trip to court"



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# HELLO RECEPTION

## COLLEY LANE PRIMARY SCHOOL

This year a full quote of children have been exciting to start a new adventure in Reception. They have quickly settled into new rules and routines and are engaging well with the curriculum. The Reception team has been pleased to welcome a new member of staff this year, Miss Syner, who brings a much appreciated artistic flair to the team and has applied her skills in our new and exciting 'investigation afternoons'. These provide the children with opportunities to try their hands at cooking, ICT, music, art, games and fine motor control activities.

As in previous years our parent teacher partnership is continuing to grow, especially with the recently implemented Tapestry system, which allows parents to gain an insight to their children's lives at school. More and more parents are participating by adding their own observations and taking on board some of the suggestions to help their children excel. The reception team would like to thank the parents for all of their support and we cannot wait to see all that the children achieve throughout this year.

### The children have said:

"I liked shaking the tambourine because it made a nice sound."

"I liked painting because you could make any colour."

"I liked putting the flour into the bowl to make bread."

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## 'Hello Reception'



The children in Reception at Olive Hill Primary School have settled in very well during their first few weeks. They have had an exciting and busy start to the year with their topic 'Here I am!' The children have been learning all about themselves and their emotions using the story of 'Elmer' by David McKee. In other topic work they have explored their senses; doing taste, smell and touch investigations. Reception have been looking at their focus author Julia Donaldson in literacy work and have read some of her well-loved books such as 'Room on the Broom' and 'The Gruffalo'. In maths they have been investigating size using Goldilocks and the three bears as a stimulus. Another exciting event was the Eid party which was celebrated by Reception and their parents and families. They completed activities linked to Eid, danced to music and had real mehndi designs on their hands. The children are looking forward to continuing with their learning after an exciting start to the term.



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## Happy & Successful Together

Welcome to Class R at Manor Way Primary Academy. We are so proud of our current Reception Class and how well they have settled into life at Manor Way!



We know that starting school is such an important time in your child's life, so we want to make it as fun and memorable as possible. At Manor Way, the days are filled with exciting activities inspired by the children and their interests. Already this year we have focused our learning around the new Disney film, 'INSIDE OUT'. We have a 'wizard' week planned where we will be making potions and even get the chance to do some pumpkin bowling! At Manor Way Primary Academy, we believe in keeping our learning current and based around the curiosities of the children. Each day is different and we provide the children with a variety of opportunities, which enable them to question and to progress in all areas of their learning both indoors and outside.

New and exciting activities are planned daily, which enable the children to access learning in a variety of ways. Last year we had

some fantastic activities ranging from hot chocolate story time around the fire pit in forest school, to a fantastic end of year trip at Wonderland, Telford! Such hands-on experiences provide us with fantastic observation opportunities and give the children the chance to learn through play.

As a school we are always happy for you to pop in and experience Class R for yourself - so please contact the office on 01384 818895 if you would like to pay us a visit.

**Open days for intake in 2016 are:**

Wednesday 4th November 2015 at 9:30am

Wednesday 25th November 2015 at 1:30pm

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## Website help to stay independent

AN ONLINE service offering advice to help people live independently for longer has been launched in Dudley.

The borough's Living Well Feeling Safe Partnership has created the tool, which provides information about equipment and support available to those who are struggling to live independently at home.

Users will be able to carry out an online self-assessment about their individual living circumstances, then the service will provide a personalised report about the support available to them and where they can buy any suitable equipment.

It also offers advice and support to those who experience problems with daily activities, such as climbing stairs, washing, dressing and cooking.

The site has been developed by the partnership and the Disability Living Foundation (DLF).

People can access Living Well Feeling Safe at the [www.lwfsonline.org.uk](http://www.lwfsonline.org.uk) website.

## Jade's happy birthday from fantasy heroes



Doctor Who fan Jade Wootton is joined by Spider-Man

DOCTOR Who's Tardis has been spotted in the Black Country with Marvel Comics superhero Spider-Man getting in on the act.

The Tardis – lovingly restored by Sedgley resident Paul Wootton – was on show in the Wootton family's garden in Barley Close to mark his daughter Jade's 18th birthday.

She said having the Tardis around had made her birthday 'extra special'.

"Everyone was really surprised when they saw it," she said. "I love Doctor Who, I watch it all the time so it was great. My birthday was absolutely amazing."

The entire family are Doctor Who fanatics but Paul's son, Jerome, also has a passion for comic books and Spider-Man in particular. Paul said: "My son had just ordered the Spiderman suit from the United States. We got him up the Tardis using a ladder at the back and he was up there posing as if he had just landed on top of the roof."

Paul bought the Tardis from BBC storage for £300 in 2014. It is believed the box was used for filming for episodes of the classic series in the 1980s.

## Hip hop hooray for students on stage

A PIONEERING educational arts programme will see dance students taking to the stage of the Grand Theatre in Wolverhampton.

The theatre has announced a new partnership with internationally acclaimed Hip Hop dance company ZooNation. The collaboration will offer opportunities for Key Stage 4 dance students across 12 schools to work with professional choreographers.

The schools will develop and present their own School Showcase at the Grand Theatre in January, and following the showcase, dancers will create a 'curtain raiser' routine, choreographed by ZooNation to be performed at the Grand before the professionals perform.

Business studies students from schools and colleges will gain marketing experience from staff at the Grand Theatre, designing a campaign to promote and publicise the showcase.

# Move for all officers to wear body cameras after tests

**BODY cameras are set to transform the working lives of police officers in the West Midlands.**

Trials in Wolverhampton and parts of Birmingham proved so successful the force now aims to have all response officers wearing one by April.

The pilot scheme proved that the cameras – worn on the chest area of the officer's protective vest and the size of a standard smartphone – can produce major changes in significant areas of the job.

They cut the number of incidents where force had to be used.

There was a rise in prosecutions, charges and early guilty pleas from suspects after evidence of what actually happened was provided by the video.

A report to the Strategic Policing and Crime Board of West Midlands Police stated: "Ongoing austerity measures imposed by central government mean the force must take advantage of opportunities to improve efficiency and reduce or prevent demand."

"Body-worn cameras present such an opportunity. It is hoped they will be issued to all response officers by April 2016."

The six-month trial in Birmingham

covered the equivalent of 430 shifts and only involved officers wearing high-visibility stab vests. They were not used in public order situations, the policing of football matches or firearms operations.

As a result there was an overall ten per cent rise in suspects being charged plus a nine per cent increase – to 66 per cent – of those accused of a criminal offence taking giving an early guilty, which offers a reduction in sentence.

All frontline Staffordshire Police officers were given body cams last year. A total of 530 cameras have been provided by the force, costing £330,000.



Officers with video badges

## Half-term fun at leisure centre

CHILDREN can take part in fun and games at a Stourbridge leisure centre during half term.

Crystal Leisure Centre in Bell Street is to host a packed week of events from October 26 to November 1. The Dudley Council facility has a swimming pool with slides, waves and rapids, open every day.

Councillor Rachel Harris, cabinet member for health and wellbeing, said: "No matter what the weather is like there will be something on offer at our leisure centres to keep young ones busy and active. As part of our Let's Get campaign we're encouraging everyone in Dudley to be physically active. These sessions at Crystal Leisure Centre offer youngsters the perfect chance to exercise whilst having fun."

Call (01384) 812800 or visit [www.dudley.gov.uk/sport](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/sport) website.

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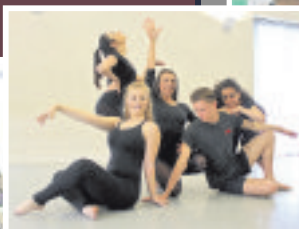
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## On the sea of love with Starsailor

**Starsailor,**  
Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton  
ANTHEMS came thick and fast as James Walsh's soaring angelic tones led Starsailor on a journey across 15 years of amazing tunes.

If proof were needed that guitar-based indie music is still very much alive, there was support from up-and-comers Judas (think early U2) and The Sherlocks, a tight combo living in the shadow of the Arctic Monkeys.

When the headliners appeared and it was straight into a wealth of melodic classics such as Tie Up My Hands and Lullaby from first album Love Is Here, slotting in well with harder-edged later material. It seemed Starsailor wanted to display their own indie leanings with even some of the older songs beefed up, much to the delight of the highly appreciative crowd.

Before performing their stand-out track, the mesmeric Alcoholic, James

told the audience that it was usually at this part of the evening that things really take off, but "you're already there."

With its relentless riff, Four To the Floor was saved for the encore and before a rocked up Good Souls. James made a special dedication that each and every one of us were worthy of the title. Ahh! I bet he says that to all the audiences.

Graeme Andrew

## Friends are bawdy and brilliant

**Fisherman's Friends**  
Town Hall, Birmingham  
THERE are no six packs in this group, with the Fisherman's Friends you get the full barrel.

This was just one of the quips from the Cornish singing group's front man Jon Cleave.

The wonderful acoustics of Brum's Town Hall were perfect, for the lusty, gutsy and ribald songs of the Port Isaac choir, joined by newest member Toby Lobb.

Cleave is cheeky, deadpan, boyish and impish during his introductions to the songs which sing of life on the sea, living on the coast and a whole host of carnal activities which are mostly cheekily suggested rather than explicit.

They kicked off with a saucy version of Blow The Man Down with Cleave's distinctive and bootstrap voice telling the tale of sexual exploits with a woman of questionable character.

It set the tone for the night which was fun, full of energy but not for the prudish.

Danny Farragher

## REVIEWS



## Peace in our time

**Peace, Splashh, Yak,**  
Wolverhampton Civic  
WORCESTERSHIRE rock band Peace ended their UK tour with a triumphant Midlands homecoming.

First up were two bands with Wolverhampton connections. Psychedelic-grunge trio Yak fronted by Wulfrunian Oliver Burslem made an awesome noise. The blistering Hungry Heart left us hungry for more. Anglo-Aussie shoegazers Splashh — Wulfrunian Tom Beal on bass — impressed with their melodic and moody psych sound. Check out the majestic swirling All I Wanna Do.

Peace have just two albums to their name but have matured into a slickly accomplished and capable band with a confident frontman in Harry Koisser. Opening with Oh You from

latest album Happy People, that got a mostly teenaged audience moshing like there was no (school) tomorrow.

There is more to this band than, admittedly brilliant, guitar riffs. Happy People has a funky undertone (listen to that bass on World Pleasure) and develops the very humour of their 2013 debut In Love. In concert the band showed a knowledge of rock history older than most of their fans with a solid cover of Led Zeppelin's Since I've Been Loving You.

Highlights included the ferocious I'm A Girl, teen angst number Perfect Skin, Follow Baby and the pulsating Bloodshake. The 90-minute set encores were Love Sick, Higher Than The Sun and funky epic World Pleasure, before they left to a mass salute of peace signs.

Leon Burakowski

## Gengahr's fretboard fireworks

**Gengahr, Hare & Hounds,**  
Kings Heath  
NAMED after a grinning Pokemon character, this London band will put a smile on the face for anyone longing for a favourite new rock band.

Gengahr's debut album A Dream Outside saw them compared to Tame Impala and MGMT and it translated well to a live environment, singer Felix Bushe's plaintive falsetto rising over the psychedelic squalls and surf twangs of guitar-her o-in-waiting John Victor.

Quirky and with the odd disconcerting lyric (Fill My Gums With Blood), Gengahr are more than sufficiently melodic to appeal outside the indie ghetto and have won fans by paying their dues as tour supports and on the festival scene. 'You were the best band at Reading' shouted someone in the crowd at this authentic above-the-pub rock venue.

This first headline tour reveals a band that aren't just promising, they are delivering, with anthem Heroine, the fretboard fireworks of Embers and woozily addictive She's A Witch. LB

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# 70s struggles are captured on stage

## REVIEW

by Mark Shipp

Anita and Me, Birmingham Rep  
**FROM the Black Country to Bollywood.** Meera Syal's much-loved novel – and later film – translated to the stage at Birmingham Rep.

Only a few days into its run the Sold Out signs were up. And there were no teething problems from the cast or setting either.

Author Syal based the book on her experiences of growing up in only Punjabi family in the mining village of Essington in the 70s, renamed Tollington for the purpose of her novel.

Much of it she admits was fabricated and, although it's clear some of it is embellished, the key context remains – the clash of cultures and the choice between one's family and best friend, all this against the backdrop of casual racism and the threat of bulldozers ready for the onset of the motorway network.

### Wedge

Significantly, it is about finding an identity and coming of age, and this Tanika Gupta adaptation expertly captures this.

In seeking to become best friends with the poverty-stricken Anita, Meena loses sight of her middle-class educated, hard-working Indian upbringing – which threatens to drive a wedge between her and her family. She is trying to fit in, but finds herself having to make a key decision as events unfold.

According to Syal's original work, music played a big part in the the family's 1970s household and that becomes significant in the stage ad-



Mandeep Dhillon (Mandeep) and Jalleh Alizadeh (Anita) in Anita And Me

aptation, resulting in spontaneous sing-alongs and leading ultimately to the Bollywood-style finale – but all perfectly delivered.

The chemistry between title characters Mandeep Dhillon (Meena) and Jalleh Alizadeh as Anita is clear for all to see, but it would be unfair to single out just those two from an accomplished cast. Joseph Drake is excellent, even down to the local accent, as Sam Lowbridge.

Meena's parents Ayesha Dharker and Ameet Chana can take credit for

their performances, while for me, Yasmin Wilde's one particular solo scene as Namina, was one of the highlights of the whole performance.

Fans of Phoenix Nights can also enjoy the performance of Barbara Nice, aka Janice Connolly.

With comedy, hard-hitting and poignant scenes, it will make you laugh, it will make you think and has the potential to make you cry.

Anita and Me runs at Birmingham Rep until October 24.

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#### PHOTOGRAPHY FOR BEGINNERS

Tues. 4th Dec. 14.00-15.30

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#### HEALTHY BALANCE

Tues. 12th Jan. 17.30-19.00

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### MUSIC

#### PLAY THE GUITAR

Int.	Mon. 2nd Nov.	19.00- 21.00	6 wks.	£39.00#
Imp.	Tues. 3rd Nov.	19.00- 21.00	6 wks.	£39.00#
Beg.	Thurs.12th Nov.	19.00- 20.30	5 wks.	£26.25#

### CREATIVE ARTS

#### JEWELLERY MAKING FOR BEGINNERS

Mon. 2nd Nov. 19.00-21.00 3 wks. £27.00#

#### UPHOLSTERY - Beginners

Thurs. 5th Nov. 19.30-21.00 5 wks. £26.25#

#### NEW! EMBROIDERY - Beginners

Thurs. 5th Nov. 18.00-19.30 5 wks. £26.25#

#### FACE PAINTING FOR BEGINNERS

Thurs. 5th Nov. 19.00-21.00 4 wks. £28.00#

### PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

#### MEDITATION

Thurs. 5th Nov. 19.00-20.30 4 wks. £27.00#

#### MINDFULNESS

Thurs. 5th Nov. 12.15-13.15 5 wks. £22.50#

#### CREATIVE WRITING

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- Sewing Made Simple
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- Italian Improvers
- Ballroom Dancing
- Pilates - Beginners and Improvers
- Dance Fit
- Emergency First Aid Courses
- Play the Guitar
- Teach your Child to Swim
- Creative Writing
- Embroidery

### BASIC COMPUTER COURSES

#### COMPUTING SKILLS: INTERNET + EMAIL

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### COMPUTER COURSES

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#### PHOTOSHOP - AN INTRODUCTION (1)

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#### CREATE YOUR OWN WEBSITE

Mon. 2nd Nov. 19.00-21.00 5 wks. £45.00#

#### MASTERING YOUR ANDROID TABLET

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Level 3 Thurs.	5th Nov.	17.45-18.45 6 wks.	£30.00

### INTENSIVE COURSES

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#### PHOTOGRAPHY

Fri. 15th Jan. 10.00-13.00 1 Day £20.00

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Whilst every effort is made to ensure that this programme and the pricing is accurate at the time of publication, changes and errors may occur. We reserve the right to amend details as required.

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# fast the ticket

## Hold the front page

Editors back – Page 19

**NATIVE MONSTER**  
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**Tommy Steele as Glenn Miller**

See Page 19

For full listings see **Express & Star** every Friday

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## Chris Ramsey



**Monday, 8pm**  
**Gatehouse Theatre, Stafford**  
Critically acclaimed stand-up comedian, Celebrity Juice regular, star of BBC2's Hebburn, and the man who once got pizza delivered to a moving train embarks on his biggest tour yet.  
[www.staffordgatehousetheatre.co.uk](http://www.staffordgatehousetheatre.co.uk)

## Priscilla Queen of The Desert



**Tuesday - October 24**  
**New Alexandra, B'ham**  
Get ready for the ride of your life as the ultimate party, Priscilla Queen Of The Desert The Musical returns to Birmingham by popular demand - starring Jason Donovan as Tick.  
Visit [www.atgtickets.com](http://www.atgtickets.com)

## Swim Deep



**Saturday, 7pm**  
**Institute, B'ham**  
Birmingham indie-rockers Swim Deep will be playing a home-town gig on Saturday. They formed back in 2011 and have a new album called Mothers which is out now.  
Visit [theinstitutebirmingham.com](http://theinstitutebirmingham.com)

## Circa Waves



**Friday, 6.30pm**  
**Institute, B'ham**  
Exciting indie-rock outfit Circa Waves formed in Liverpool in 2013. The band consists of frontman Kieran Shudall, Sam Rourke, Colin Jones and Joe Falconer.  
Visit [theinstitutebirmingham.com](http://theinstitutebirmingham.com)

## ROCK & POP

**Nathaniel Rateliff & The Night Sweats**  
Sun at 7pm, £10  
The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY.  
Call 0121 643 0428

**The ELO Experience**  
Sat at 7.30pm, £18.25 - £19.25  
Palace Theatre, Redditch, B98 8AE. Call 01527 65203

**Ron Sexsmith**  
Wed at 7pm, 11pm, £22.50  
The Glee Club, Birmingham, B5 4TD. Call 0871 472 0400

**Fightstar**  
Wed at 7pm, £15  
Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall, WV1 1RQ. 0870 320 7000

**Ryan McGarvey**  
Mon at 7.30pm, £10 - £12  
The Robin, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.  
Call 01902 401211

**Arcane Roots**  
Sat at 12am, Asylum, Hockley, Birmingham, B19 3LS. Call 0121 233 1109

**Les McKeown's Bay City Rollers**  
Sun at 7.30pm, £19.50 - £21  
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.  
Call 01543 412121

**Kid Ink**  
Sun at 7pm, £22.50  
O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

**Stars From The Commitments**  
Fri at 7.30pm, £26  
Palace Theatre, Redditch, B98 8AE. Call 01527 65203

**The Complete Stone Roses: Stone Roses Tribute**  
Sat at 7pm, £14.85  
Wolverhampton Slade Rooms, WV1 1RQ. 0870 320 7000

**Fred Zeppelin: Led Zeppelin Tribute**  
Fri at 8.30pm, £8 - £9  
Wolverhampton Slade Rooms, WV1 1RQ. 0870 320 7000

**Swim Deep**  
Sat at 7pm, £12  
The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY.  
Call 0121 643 0428

**Gong**  
Tue at 7.30pm, £20 - £22.50  
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.  
Call 01902 401211

**Circa Waves**  
Fri at 6.30pm, £12.50  
The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY.  
Call 0121 643 0428

**Nick Harper**  
Thu at 7.30pm, £10 - £12  
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.  
Call 01902 401211

**The Elvis Years**  
Wed at 7.30pm, £20  
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

**Godsize**  
Fri at 7.45pm, £3 - £5  
The River Rooms, Stourbridge, DY8 1JN. Call 01384 397177

**Editors**  
Fri at 6pm, £20  
O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

**Cradle Of Filth**  
Tue at 7pm, £18  
Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall, WV1 1RQ. 0870 320 7000

**ASAP Rocky & Wiz Khalifa**  
Fri at 7.30pm, £36.70 - £40.20  
Genting Arena, Birmingham, B40 1NT. Call 0121 780 4141

**Andy Fairweather Low & The Low Riders**  
Sun at 7.30pm, £20 - £22  
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.  
Call 01902 401211

**The Pretty Things**  
Fri at 7.30pm, The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.  
Call 01902 401211

**Guns N Roses Tribute**  
Thu at 7.30pm, The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.  
Call 01902 401211

**Frank Zappa: The Grandmothers Of Invention**  
Wed at 8.30pm, £20 - £22.50  
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.  
Call 01902 401211

**Bring It All Back - The Ultimate 90s Show**  
Fri at 8pm, £15  
mac, Birmingham, B12 9QH.  
Call 0121 446 3232

**Panic Room**  
Fri at 6.30pm - 10pm, £15  
The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY.  
Call 0121 643 0428

**Open Mic Night**  
Mon at 8.30pm, Free  
Katie Fitzgerald's, Wollaston, Stourbridge, DY8 3TB.  
Call 01384 374410

## FOLK & ACOUSTIC

**The Shires**  
Sun at 7pm, £13.50  
The Institute, Birmingham, B5 6DY. Call 0121 643 0428

**Urban Folk Quartet**  
Sat at 8pm, £15.50  
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

**Charlie Landsborough**  
Fri at 7.30pm - 10pm, £19.50  
Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock, WS11 1DE.  
Call 01543 578762

**The Demon Barbers XL**  
Thu at 7.30pm - 9.30pm, £16.50  
Birmingham Town Hall, B3 3DQ.  
Call 0121 780 3333

**The Delray Rockets**  
Sat at 12am, Free  
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge, DY8 3TB. Call 01384 374410

**Harvey Andrews**  
Thu at 8pm, £12  
Katie Fitzgerald's, Wollaston, Stourbridge, DY8 3TB.  
Call 01384 374410

**Irish Music Session**  
Wed at 8pm, Katie Fitzgerald's, Wollaston, Stourbridge, DY8 3TB.  
Call 01384 374410

## JAZZ & BLUES

**Grappelli Swing**  
Mon at 7.30pm, £7.50  
The Crescent Theatre, Birmingham, B16 8AE.  
Call 0121 643 5858

**The Robert Cray Band**  
Fri at 7.30pm, £29.50  
Birmingham Town Hall, B3 3DQ.  
Call 0121 780 3333

**Steve Ajao Blues Giants**  
Fri at 5pm, Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

## RNB & SOUL

**Jocelyn Brown**  
Wed at 9pm, £20  
The Jam House, Birmingham, B310U.  
Call 0121 200 3030

## CLASSICAL & OTHER MUSIC

**Leonore Piano Trio**  
Fri at 8pm, £5 - £18  
Artrix, Bromsgrove, B61 1PQ.  
Call 01527 577330

**Gewandhausorchester Leipzig**  
Mon at 7.30pm - 10pm, £9.50 - £50  
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA.  
Call 0121 780 3333

**Out Of This World**  
Sun at 7pm - 9pm, £5 - £10  
West Bromwich Town Hall, B70 8DX. Call 0121 569 4429

**Paul Potts**  
Fri at 7.30pm, £20 - £34.50  
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, WV1 1DE.  
Call 01902 573320

**CBSO 2015-16 Friday Night Classics: Star Wars**  
Fri at 7.30pm, £12.50 - £47  
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

**CBSO 2015-16 - Brahms' German Requiem**  
Thu at 7.30pm, £12.50 - £45  
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

## THEATRE

**The Irish House Party**  
Thu at 7.30pm, £19.50  
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.  
Call 01543 412121

**Rat Pack: Vegas Spectacular**  
Sat at 7.30pm, £20  
Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock, WS11 1DE.  
Call 01543 578762

**The Hound Of The Baskervilles**  
Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 7.30pm, £10 - £15  
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.  
Call 01543 412121

**Bedlam Foundry Night**  
Mon at 8pm, £5  
Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

**The Glenn Miller Story**  
Mon at 7.30pm - 9.45pm, Tue at 7.30pm - 9.45pm, Wed at 2.30pm - 4.45pm, Thu at 7.30pm - 9.45pm, £21.50 - £39.50  
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, WV1 1DE. Call 01902 573320

**Ellen Kent Opera & Ballet International: Bizet's Carmen**  
Sun at 7.30pm - 10.30pm, £17.89 - £90.90  
New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, B5 4DS.  
Call 0844 871 3011

**Don't Dress For Dinner: Lichfield Players**  
Tue at 7.30pm, Wed at 7.30pm, Thu at 7.30pm, £10 - £12  
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.  
Call 01543 412121

**The Full Monty: Lichfield Operatic Society**  
Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm, 7.30pm, £15 - £19  
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.  
Call 01543 412121

**Anita And Me**  
Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 7.30pm, Sun at 3pm, Tue at 2pm, 7.30pm, Thu at 2pm, 7.30pm, £7 - £30  
Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

**Priscilla Queen Of The Desert**  
Tue at 7.30pm, Wed at 2.30pm, 7.30pm, Thu at 7.30pm, £15 - £45  
New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, B5 4DS.  
Call 0844 871 3011

**An Evening Of Burlesque**  
Sat at 7.30pm, £22.50 - £24.50  
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, WV1 1DE.  
Call 01902 573320

**Hypnosis: Lichfield Players**  
Tue at 7.30pm, Wed at 7.30pm, Thu at 7.30pm, £10 - £12  
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.  
Call 01543 412121

**Sweeney Todd: Stafford & District Operatic Society**  
Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm, 7.30pm, £12.50 - £14.50  
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, ST16 2LT.  
Call 01785 254653

**Disney On Ice: Worlds Of Enchantment**  
Wed at 7pm, Thu at 7pm, £19.74 - £46.62  
Barclaycard Arena, B1 2AA.  
Call 0121 780 4141

**James Cousins Company: Without Stars/There We Have Been**  
Fri at 8pm, Sat at 8pm, £8 - £12  
Birmingham Hippodrome, B5 4TB. Call 0844 338 5000

**Bhangra Wars**  
Sat at 5pm, £12.25 - £16.25  
Wolverhampton Civic Hall, WV1 1RQ.  
Call 0870 320 7000

**Annie**  
Fri at 7.30pm, Sat - Sun at 7.30pm, Sun at 2.30pm, Tue at 7.30pm, Wed - Thu at 7.30pm, Thu at 2pm, 7.30pm, £20 - £42.50  
Birmingham Hippodrome, B5 4TB.  
Call 0844 338 5000

## COMEDY

**Malcolm Stent: Brummie Spoken Here!**  
Sat at 7.45pm, £13.25  
Palace Theatre, Redditch, B98 8AE. Call 01527 65203

**Chris Ramsey: All Growned Up**  
Mon at 8pm, £17.50  
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, ST16 2LT.  
Call 01785 254653

**Round The Horne**  
Tue at 7.30pm, £17  
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.  
Call 01543 412121

**Alan Carr - SOLD OUT**  
Fri at 8pm, £30  
Wolverhampton Civic Hall, WV1 1RQ.  
Call 0870 320 7000

## OTHER EVENTS

**Michael Portillo: Life A Game Of Two Halves**  
Mon at 7.15pm, £14 - £16  
Palace Theatre, Redditch, B98 8AE. Call 01527 65203

**Lou Lou's Vintage Fair**  
Sat at 11am, £2  
Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall, WV1 1RQ. 0870 320 7000

Check out full listings in **the ticket** in Friday's Express & Star



# Editors make new start in Highlands



Free of the past, Stafford band Editors have recorded a new album, *In Dream*, and play Birmingham's O2 Academy

THEY came pretty close to splitting up when former guitarist Chris Urbanowicz left Editors in 2012 citing musical differences.

But now, three years on, Editors can show their true colours as they embark on the next phase of their career. The band, which formed in Stafford in 2002 and was based in Birmingham, have made a clean break with the past on fifth studio album, *In Dream*.

It was made with Depeche Mode and Nine Inch Nails collaborator, Alan Moulder, and his influence is clear. *In Dream* is bigger, richer and more electronic than previous works.

The album was produced in an open studio environment at Crear, in the Western Highlands, where they endured hurricane-like weather.

Bassist Russ Leetch said: "Making a record over winter was really great for us, really creative. You are stuck

inside anyway. Going up to Scotland and having the elements beating against us was inspiring."

The record will surprise some of the band's fans. It is the 'least-Editors-esque' record in their cannon. "We didn't want to repeat what we'd done before," explained Russ.

Editors have sold out their show tomorrow (Fri) at Birmingham O2 Academy, where support comes from The Twilight Sad.



*'You're never too old'*

## Tommy plays big band idol

MUSIC legend Tommy Steele, who celebrates his 80th birthday next year, returns to Wolverhampton in The Glenn Miller Story next week.

The show, which brings to life the story of the 1940s American big band leader, runs at Wolverhampton Grand Theatre from Monday to Saturday as part of an 11-venue UK tour.

The pop and West End star, who was dubbed the UK's answer to Elvis Presley in the 1950s, says: "It all started after I gave a lecture to some secondary school pupils about rock 'n' roll and country music, and this little girl, who was probably about 12, asked me what it was like to sing with Glenn Miller, to which I laughed and said, 'I'm not that old!'"

"I told this story to friend Bill Kenwright (leading theatre producer) over dinner one evening and he said 'That's it. The Glenn Miller Story, we can do a stage musical about it'. And when I asked him who will play Glenn Miller, he said 'You are'. Despite my protests that I am a pensioner and English, and Glenn Miller was young and American, Bill insisted and said, 'it calls for a song and dance man - you'. I said, 'Bill, I'm too old to play Glenn Miller'. He replied 'Tommy, you're never too old.'"

The showbiz veteran revealed why the role had been irresistible: "Glenn Miller is my idol. When I was a little boy my dad took me to the Albert Hall to see him. All I can remember is this wonderful sound and then came the mystery of his death. It's a great story."

Visit [www.grandtheatre.co.uk](http://www.grandtheatre.co.uk) or call 01902 429212.

### Weekend of folk in cathedral city

BIG names from the world of folk music will be heading to Staffordshire this weekend for Lichfield Festival of Folk, which gets under way tomorrow (Fri).

The annual shindig will mainly be held in the city's Guildhall, in Bore Street, and surrounding venues, featuring local musicians as well as those from further afield.

The bill for the three-day festival includes music and storytelling workshops plus performances by The Exmouth Shanty Men, Blackbeard's Tea Party (who have released new album *Reprobates*), Emily Sanders and Granny's Attic, plus many others. See [www.lichfieldarts.org.uk](http://www.lichfieldarts.org.uk) or call 01543 262223.

### A homecoming and Robin rock legends

THE Hoosiers are back with a new album, *The Secret Service*, just a year on from their fourth LP *The News From Nowhere*, and play The Ooblock, part of the Custard Factory complex in Digbeth, on Saturday.

They will be competing with the big homecoming nearby at The Institute where Swim Deep will be unveiling their new psychedelic groove as heard on their second album *Mothers*.

Legends play Bilston's Robin 2 with The Pretty Things tomorrow (Fri), Andy Fairweather Low on Sunday, revamped Gong on Tuesday and ex-Frank Zappa associates The Grandmothers of Invention on Wednesday.

### Classic comedy in silver screen return

LEGENDARY comedy double act Laurel and Hardy are returning to the big screen, in high definition for the first time.

Four of their classic black and white comedies from the 1930s, presented in double bills, are coming to Showcase and Vue cinemas in the West Midlands as part of a nationwide tour.

Way Out West and Towed In A Hole will be screened at Dudley, Walsall and Birmingham on Tuesday evening with a matinee on October 25. The Music Box and Block-Heads follows at the same cinemas on November 15 (matinee) and 17 (evening).

See [www.laurelandhardyroadshow.co.uk](http://www.laurelandhardyroadshow.co.uk) website.

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Crealy Adventure Park Flying Machine

# Glamping provides a Came-lot of comfort for the whole family

**CAMPING** had never been my thing, but I decided to try glamping during a weekend to Crealy Meadows in Devon.

We were staying in Camelot Village in Sir Galahad – a medieval pavilion tent. This offered far more comfort and luxury than you would expect under canvas. It was spacious with a double bedroom, a twin room and a set of bunk beds.

Heat and cooking was by the wood burning stove and there was light, so it was easy to find your way around. There was a farmhouse style kitchen diner with a Belfast sink and all the utensils you would need.

It was a great adventure and a little bit daunting when on a walk to the toilet block you stumbled upon a full size fibre-glass knight with glaring eyes guarding the campsite in the pitch black night. If medie-

By Lisa Bailey

val times don't float your boat, there is also glamping with an African theme.

Not one to go without my creature comforts for long, the toilet and shower block was certainly five star with underfloor heating and touch point showers. It also has family bathrooms and a laundry. The facilities were immaculate.

The weather for the whole weekend was glorious, but it was the end of September and I think seasoned campers would have taken a few extra woollies for the evening.

With a visit to Crealy Meadows, near Exeter, you also get access to Devon's Crealy Great Adventure Park next door through a secret door. A wristband allows you to visit the park as much as you like.

Entertainment for the Meadows is also at the park and live entertainment begins on

Friday, October 23, to Monday, November 2. The entertainment includes a mini-disco, race night and cabaret.

There are ghostly goings-on between October 24 and November 1. The park also launches a brand new spooky attraction, Trick or Treat with the Treehouse Trolls, while Scooby-Doo visits on October 30.

There was plenty for all of us in the park with rides, including The Twister, Crealy Grand Prix, Vortex, Tidal Wave and Dino Jeeps.

After all our adventures and fun in the park we visited Exmouth for an hour-long coastal cruise with Stuart Line Cruises, taking us along part of the Jurassic coast with beautiful views of the sea and surrounding coastline.

After plenty of sea air, we walked along the promenade and savoured the delights of Exmouth with ice creams in hand. Mine

was topped with clotted cream of course. On the Sunday, we visited the truly beautiful Bicton Park Botanical Gardens, about 20 minutes from where we were staying.

We took a 25-minute scenic tour of the park by train and were shown the points of interest on the way, including the park's 41 metre Grecian fir, the tallest of its kind ever recorded.

The Italian garden was stunning with its fountains and we looked around the Palm House – all made of glass – and looked at the cacti in the Arid House.

We also visited the Countryside Museum with its traction engines, wooden wagons and Victorian kitchen. The story of agriculture over the ages was shown to us on a rolling film. For lunch, we ate on the patio of the Garden Centre and as the sun shone we tucked into a delightful homemade meal before going off for more exploring.

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CHOICE



Michael Fox

**Downton Abbey (ITV, 9pm)**  
Neville Chamberlain visits Downton for dinner, and is drawn into Violet's plan to save the hospital, with distressing consequences for everyone. Andy finds an unexpected confidante while helping Mr Mason move into Yew Tree Farm. Mary is uncertain if she has met her match, Edith meets Bertie Pelham in London, and Spratt comes to Denker's aid. Mrs Hughes struggles to keep Carson happy, while Mary thinks secrets are being kept from her. Rupert Frazer, Maggie Smith, Hugh Bonneville, Laura Carmichael, Jim Carter, Raquel Cassidy and Brendan Coyle star.

BBC1

**6.00** Breakfast. **7.30** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** Sunday Morning Live. **11.00** Sunday Politics. **12.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **2.00** Escape to the Country. (R) **3.00** Eat Well for Less? (R) **4.00** Points of View. **4.15** Songs of Praise. **4.50** DIY SOS: Homes for Veterans. (R) **5.50** BBC News. **6.10** **Regional Programme.** **6.15** **Countryfile Autumn Special.** The latest rural developments, including reports on issues affecting country communities and insights into the life of the modern farmer. Including Weather for the Week Ahead. **7.15** **Strictly Come Dancing: The Results.** Tess Daly and Claudia Winkelman introduce the results of last night's public vote, as two couples face a dance-off to remain in the competition. Plus, music from Will Young. **8.00** **Antiques Roadshow.** Fiona Bruce presents from Plymouth's Royal William Yard. Items brought in to be valued include a ceremonial wooden spoon presented to the student who got the worst exam results in the history of Cambridge University, one of the last flasks of naval rum to be produced, a book of designs by a famous landscape gardener, a ceremonial hammer and chisel and some dolls' house furniture. One visitor discovers the brooch she bought in a charity shop is much older than she thought. **9.00** **From Darkness.** Claire flees to the safety of the Western Isles after a direct threat to her life, and is convinced she is being watched. Norrie feels her presence endangers their daughter, and insists she return to Manchester to finish things once and for all. John also comes under pressure to crack the case before his misconduct review, and the two come up with a reckless plan that could cost them both dearly if they fail. **10.00** **BBC News.** **10.20** **Regional Programme.** **10.30** **Match of the Day 2.** Mark Chapman presents action from the day's sole Premier League match. **11.15** **The Apprentice.** **12.15** **Weather for the Week Ahead.** **12.20** **BBC News.**

BBC2

**6.00** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **6.45** The Big Allotment Challenge. (R) **7.45** Countryfile. (R) **8.45** Gardeners' World. (R) **9.15** The Beechgrove Garden. **9.45** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.15** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **12.15** MOTD2 Extra. **1.00** Terry and Mason's Great Food Trip. (R) **1.30** John Huston: Talking Pictures. **2.10** **Film:** The Man Who Would Be King. (1975) **4.15** The Railway: Keeping Britain on Track. (R) **5.15** **Flog It!** (R) **6.00** **Don't Panic - The Truth About Population.** Statistician Hans Rosling uses state-of-the-art 3D graphics to reveal that the problems of rapid population growth and extreme poverty are beginning to be conquered. (R) **7.00** **Travellerman Special: The Prawn Wars.** Dougie Vipond follows the creelers, trawlers and scallop dredgers who have to battle to make a living on Scotland's West Coast. **8.00** **Earth's Wildest Waters: The Big Fish.** Ben Fogle takes the seven remaining contestants to Cuba, where they must fish in the Bay of Pigs using local tyre tube boats and go in search of giant tarpon on the Atlantic coast. **9.00** **Britain's Ultimate Pilots: Inside the RAF.** The flyers attend the UK's largest air show, where the Red Arrows have to struggle to cope with the weather and a group of pilots reenact a Second World War 18-plane launch. **10.00** **Family Guy.** Peter makes a group of female friends. **10.20** **Family Guy.** Peter and Lois send Chris to space camp to boost his self-esteem, but when his stint ends and the Griffins arrive to pick him up, they are accidentally launched into space. **10.45** **Family Guy.** **11.05** **Top Coppers.** A string of disappearances are connected to a medical research lab, but when Mahogany investigates, he is injected with a lethal serum that leaves him with 24 hours to live. **11.35** **Film: 8 Minutes Idle.** (2012) **Premiere.** A lazy call centre employee is forced to secretly live in the office when his parents throw him out of the family home. Comedy, starring Tom Hughes. **12.55** **Film:** Corridors of Blood. (1958) **2.20** **Sign Zone:** Countryfile. (R) **3.20** **Holby City.** (R) **4.20** **This Is BBC Two.**

ITV

**6.00** CITY: Bottom Knocker Street. **6.10** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.20** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.45** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **6.50** Sooty. (R) **7.05** Fish Hooks. **7.25** Matt Hatter Chronicles. **7.45** Marvel Avengers Assemble. **8.15** Horrid Henry. **8.30** Thunderbirds Are Go. **9.00** Horrible Science. **9.25** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **10.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) **11.20** **ITV News.** **Weather.** **11.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **12.25** Rugby World Cup. **3.15** **Rugby World Cup.** **6.15** **Regional Programme;** **Weather.** **6.20** **ITV News;** **Weather.** **6.30** **You've Been Framed!** Featuring a bride dealing with language difficulties, a woman getting run over by a fire engine, a dog that shoots a video with a smartphone, and a surprise inside an egg. (R) **7.00** **The X Factor.** Caroline Flack and Olly Murs present the final stage of the six chair challenge, featuring contestants from the Overs category. Judges Simon Cowell, Rita Ora, Nick Grimshaw and Cheryl Fernandez-Versini must each select six performers to go through to the live shows – but have the freedom to change their mind at any point, so even those who win a place are not safe until the very end. **9.00** **Downton Abbey.** Neville Chamberlain visits Downton for dinner, and is drawn into Violet's plan to save the hospital, with distressing consequences for everyone. Andy finds an unexpected confidante while helping Mr Mason move into Yew Tree Farm. Mary is uncertain if she has met her match, Edith meets Bertie Pelham in London, and Spratt comes to Denker's aid. Mrs Hughes struggles to keep Carson happy, while Mary thinks secrets are being kept from her. **10.00** **ITV News;** **Weather.** **10.15** **Rugby World Cup Highlights.** Mark Durden-Smith presents action from the third and fourth quarter-finals, which took place at Millennium Stadium and Twickenham respectively. **11.15** **Premiership Rugby Union.** **12.15** **Perspectives:** Rick Wakeman on Vivaldi's Four Seasons. (R) **1.20** **Jackpot247.** **3.00** **Motorsport UK.** **3.50** **ITV Nightscreen.** **5.05** **The Jeremy Kyle Show.** (R)

CHANNEL 4

**6.20** How I Met Your Mother. (R) **6.45** How I Met Your Mother. (R) **7.10** How I Met Your Mother. (R) **7.35** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.55** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.25** **Film:** Spy Kids 4: All the Time in the World. (2011) Family adventure, starring Jessica Alba. **3.05** **Film:** A Knight's Tale. (2001) Medieval comedy adventure, starring Heath Ledger. **5.40** A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun. **6.40** **Channel 4 News.** **7.00** **Homes by the Sea.** Architectural designer Charlie Luxton leaves behind mainland Britain and heads to the Channel Islands, as his quest to visit impressive seaside homes continues. On Guernsey's Jerbourg peninsula, he takes in a remodelled cliff-top villa, and an old windmill that once served as the home of French writer Victor Hugo during his time of exile on the island. Later, on Jersey, he examines a converted railway station at Corbiere, and a medieval church on St Brelade's Bay. **8.00** **China: Treasures of the Jade Empire.** A look at the relics found in the tombs of China's Han Dynasty. The era is generally considered the golden age of ancient China, a rivaling the Roman empire for international power, and has been a defining influence on the country's cultural identity ever since. The programme examines how the emperors arranged to have their dead bodies mummified in the search for immortality and looks at a newly discovered version of the famous terracotta army. **9.00** **Homeland.** Carrie and During visit a refugee camp, while Saul and Allison are at odds with each other. Thriller following a team of CIA agents battling terrorists, starring Claire Danes. **10.00** **Experimental.** Tim builds a vacuum-powered climbing kit and challenges Buddy to scale a theatre. The duo also examine G-Forces by attaching a moped to a child's roundabout. Last in the series. **11.05** **Film:** Haywire. (2011) Action thriller, with Gina Carano. **12.45** **Film:** Metro Manila. (2013) **2.45** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.35** Food Unwrapped. (R)

CHANNEL 5

**6.00** Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **6.20** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **6.35** Pip Ahoy! (R) **6.45** Tickety Toc. (R) **6.55** Chloe's Closet. (R) **7.10** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.15** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.30** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.50** Little Princess. (R) **8.05** Wanda and the Alien. (R) **8.20** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **8.35** Football League Tonight. (R) **10.00** The Great Birmingham Run. Coverage of the half-marathon. **10.05** **Film:** Mannequin. (1987) Fantasy comedy, starring Andrew McCarthy. **1.50** **Film:** Did You Hear about the Morgans? (2009) Romantic comedy, starring Hugh Grant and Sarah Jessica Parker. **3.55** **Film:** Seabiscuit. (2003) Fact-based horse racing drama, with Tobey Maguire. **6.35** **5 News Weekend.** **6.40** **Film:** The Fifth Element. (1997) In the 23rd century, the world faces destruction from a seemingly unstoppable force of pure evil. Meanwhile, a New York cab driver encounters a mysterious woman destined to save the Earth from its fate, and has to protect her from a scheming arms dealer and a horde of alien mercenaries. Luc Besson's sci-fi adventure, starring Bruce Willis, Milla Jovovich and Gary Oldman. Edited for language, nudity and sexual content. **9.00** **Film:** Centurion. (2010) **Premiere.** A Roman legion is sent on a mission to crush a Pictish uprising, only to be nearly wiped out in a savage ambush. A centurion who survives the massacre takes charge of the survivors and leads them on a daring mission to rescue their captured general and make it back to their own territory alive. Neil Marshall's action thriller, with Michael Fassbender, Dominic West and Olga Kurylenko. **11.00** **Film:** Conan the Barbarian. (2011) A warrior seeks revenge on the warlord who killed his father, and tries to stop him magically making himself all-powerful. Fantasy adventure, with Jason Momoa and Stephen Lang. **12.55** **SuperCasino.** Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team. **3.10** **Britain's Flashiest Families.** A woman who spends tens of thousands of pounds on watches for her children. (R) **4.00** **House Doctor.** (R)

DIGITAL

**BBC Three**  
**7.00** Top Gear **8.00** Don't Tell the Bride **9.00** Russell Howard's Good News **10.00** **Film:** I Know What You Did Last Summer (1997) **11.35** Family Guy **1.00** Asian Provocateur **1.30** Together **2.00** Football Fight Club **3.00** Russell Howard's Good News **4.00** **Close**  
**BBC Four**  
**7.00** The Bridges That Built London with Dan Cruickshank **8.00** The Many Faces of Les Dawson **9.00** Rich Hall's Inventing the Indians **10.30** **Film:** The Hunters **12.20** Ultimate Swarms **1.20** **Film:** Dagenham Dream **2.20** Inmortal? A Horizon Guide to Ageing **3.20** **Close**  
**ITV2**  
**11.15** The Almost Impossible Gameshow **12.20** **Clashphrase 1.05** **Film:** What a Girl Wants (2003) **3.15** You've Been Framed: Animals **4.15** **Film:** Happy Feet (2006) **6.25** **Film:** Lost in Space (1998) **9.00** The X Factor **10.00** **Film:** White Chicks (2004) **12.20** **Viral Top 1.05** **Totally Bonkers** Guinness World Records **1.55** **Animal Practice 2.15** **Teleshopping** **5.45** **ITV2** **Nightscreen**  
**ITV3**  
**12.20** **Inspector Morse 2.40** **Lewis 4.40** **Midsomer Murders 6.50** **Foye's War 9.00** **Sunday Night at the Palladium** **10.00** **Birds of a Feather** **10.30** **City Lights** **11.35** **Lewis 1.30** **Agatha Christie's Marple 3.05** **ITV3** **Nightscreen** **3.40** **Emmerdale**  
**ITV4**  
**1.40** **Film:** The Sting (1973) **4.20** **Film:** Police Academy 5: Assignment Miami Beach (1988) **6.10** **Film:** Superman IV: The Quest for Peace (1987) **8.00** **Premiership Rugby Union 9.00** **Film:** High Plains Drifter (1973) **11.15** **Film:** The Wild Bunch (1969) **2.10** **Hell on Wheels 2.55** **ITV4** **Nightscreen** **3.00** **Teleshopping**  
**E4**  
**12.30** **Film:** A Turtle's Tale: Sammy's Adventures (2010) **2.15** **Rude(ish) Tube Shorts 2.30** **Comedy Dine with Me** **5.45** **Chelsea Special 3.30** **Made in Chelsea Does Come Dine with Me** **4.35** **The Big Bang Theory 9.00** **Film:** The Mechanic (2011) **10.50** **Gogglebox** **12.30** **Chewing Gum 1.00** **How to Get Fit** **1.35** **2 Broke Girls 2.55** **Rules of Engagement 3.15** **Baby Daddy 3.35** **Hollyoaks**  
**Film4**  
**11.00** **Went the Day Well? (1942)** **1.00** **Fred Claus (2007)** **3.15** **The War of the Worlds (1953)** **4.55** **Fleeth (1985)** **6.55** **Mirror Mirror (2012)** **9.00** **Paul (2011)** **11.05** **Role Models (2008)** **1.10** **Nowhere Boy (2009)** **3.15** **Close**

Dental implants bring an end to hidden misery of failing teeth

Amy – not her real name – has secretly suffered with her teeth for 24 years, bravely smiling through her discomfort. Now free from oral problems, her smile holds another secret . . . thanks to one of dentistry's most creative procedures.

Amy doesn't need to say anything about her dental implants – her smile tells it's own obvious story.

Upbeat and bubbly, the Black Country care professional, who lives and breathes her work with the learning disabled, dispenses liberal amounts of infectious laughter and disarming smiles.

Youthfully middle-aged, she is confident, presents well and is clearly very proud of the achievements of her clients.

A live-in support worker, her sunny outlook and cheery disposition have regularly been challenged over the years.

Surprisingly, it's not been the relentless pressure of her work, the major rebuild of her home, or the juggling of domestic duties with the demands of being a working mum.

Amy's own life-changer, she admits, have been her teeth. "It's been my secret for years and years, but on-ones would have ever known."

Problems began to emerge 24 years ago after the birth of her daughter. "I had one abscess after another.

"The problem just kept on recurring and the

well documented and in some women it can trigger oral problems.

Says Steven: "During pregnancy, increased hormones can affect your body's response to plaque – the layer of germs on your teeth – but I need to assure people that getting pregnant does not automatically damage teeth. The demands of pregnancy, however, can in some instances create havoc, as it appears to have done with this patient.

"Her problem has been resolved by using dental implants, one of the most creative options modern dentistry affords and the nearest possible substitute for natural teeth. Outcomes are generally very predictable."

The implant work has reshaped Amy's smile and face, something her daughter noticed immediately and is clearly evident from pictures displayed in her home.

"I know it appears strange, but up until having the implants, my teeth have affected the way I lived, my food choices – no toffee or peanuts – and my self-confidence. I used to speak with my hand in front of my mouth

where gaps had opened up between teeth at the side.

"If you look at the pictures of me with my husband my smile is nowhere near as wide as it is today. My daughter says I now smile all of the time," she says.

"I never have to worry anymore about the problems I've endured and getting the implants was really not that bad. I was back at work the next morning and no-one knew. It was certainly money well spent."

The implants were placed by Dr Owain Rees BDS, DGCSP (UK) DIP IMP DENT (JCL), the clinic's implantologist.

"With more than 25 years' experience as a dental implant surgeon, he initially worked as a house officer in oral surgery at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital. His surgical mentor

was the late Dennis Wedgewood MBBS BDS FDSRCSE, consultant Oral and Maxillofacial surgeon.

"Very early on in my career I was exposed to implant work and placed my first implant in the late '80s. Since then I've had a special interest in this field of dentistry," says Owain.

In furthering his surgical skills, Owain undertook postgraduate implantology training with the Eastman Dental Institute. A further implant qualification followed in advanced implantology for experienced practitioners.

"It's a privilege to be part of this clinical success story," he adds.

"The name of the patient has been changed to preserve confidentiality . . . and her longstanding secret.

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FILM CHOICES

**MONDAY**  
**Being Bhajjaan, Channel 4, 1am**  
Shabani Hassanwalia and Sameen Farooqui's documentary exploring the influence of Bollywood superstar Salman Khan on masculinity in India, told through the story of Shan Ghosh and Balam Gehani's obsession with the actor. To these devotees, Khan's physicality, the words he utters on screen, his charity work and the fact that he has yet to marry all verge on the sacred, but in real life the actor faces a five-year prison sentence for a hit-and-run case dating from 2002 and is currently out on bail. In Hindi and Urdu. (2014)

**WEDNESDAY**  
**Fatal Trust, Channel 5, 3.15pm**  
A widow returns to the small town where she grew up to recover from her grief at the loss of her husband, and gets a job as a secretary to the local doctor. She becomes suspicious about the surprising number of patients who die after treatment, and becomes convinced the seemingly kind medic is poisoning them. Crime drama, starring Amy Jo Johnson and David Haydn-Jones. (2006)



**THURSDAY**  
**Total Recall, Channel 5, 10pm**  
A man living in a bleak future years after a nuclear war has fake memories of being a secret agent implanted into his brain. However, the procedure uncovers the fact that he really is a spy with his memory erased, and he is forced to become a fugitive from the totalitarian government. Sci-fi thriller remake, with Colin Farrell, Kate Beckinsale and Jessica Biel. (2012)

**FRIDAY**  
**Skyfall, ITV, 9pm**  
James Bond pursues a mysterious criminal mastermind who has orchestrated a terrorist attack on MI6 headquarters and exposed the identities of undercover agents around the world. The trail leads to a rogue former operative who has a personal vendetta against the intelligence organisation's leader. Action thriller, starring Daniel Craig, Javier Bardem, Judi Dench and Ralph Fiennes. (2012)

A life changing event awaits the citizens

Even the mighty Coen brothers couldn't have foreseen the success of Fargo when it was released back in 1996.

It was a huge hit, won brothers Joel and Ethan an Oscar for Best Original Screenplay, and Joel's wife Frances McDormand picked up a statuette for her performance as pregnant Minnesota police chief Marge Gunderson, who is on the trail of two killers.

Eighteen years later, writer Noah Hawley used the film as inspiration for a 10-part quirky crime drama which starred Billy Bob Thornton, Colin Hanks and Martin Freeman, although it was Allison Tolman who stole the show as Molly Solverson who, like Marge, is a state trooper.

The character pops up as a four-year-old child in the new series, which acts as a kind of prequel to its predecessor. At the centre of the story is Molly's dad Lou, who was originally played by Keith Carradine; here, Patrick Wilson assumes the role.

The story is set in 1979 and Lou is a Vietnam veteran now working as a state police officer who, along with his father-in-law, Sheriff Hank Larsson, is investigating the links between a crime gang and a major Mob syndicate.

Wilson is joined on screen by Kirsten Dunst and Nick Offerman, while Bruce Campbell makes an unmissable appearance as US presidential candidate Ronald Reagan.

But perhaps the biggest draw is Ted Danson, who plays Hank, and wasn't sure about taking the role.

"To be honest, I hadn't watched the first season," he says, somewhat sheepishly. "My kids all kept saying 'No, no, no, no, no, you've gotta watch this!' And I continued to resist, for some reason."

"But then, towards the last month of doing CSI last year, there was an offer, so I immediately devoured the whole thing in about two days. Halfway into the first episode I was just totally hooked by the characters, the writing, the acting."

"The whole mood of it was so fascinating to me, and it definitely captured the spirit of the Coens, and then just took off on its own track."

Then I had a phone call with Noah. The part wasn't that large when I read it, and I kept saying 'Gee, is there enough for me to sink my teeth into?' but he remained very mysterious..."

Danson sports an impressive beard throughout, and it was all his own – although he and his wife, Mary Steenburgen, weren't so thrilled by it.

"We both went, 'looks good, feels like crap!'" he laughs. "I couldn't wait to get rid of it. I liked how it looked, but it was like trying to kiss through a burlap sack."

So, instead of focusing on facial hair, Danson would prefer people tuned in to see what promises to be one of 2015's best shows.

"It has that same Fargo tone, but it's also completely different," he explains. "It has the same thing – 'How can I be smiling and grimacing at the same time through all the violence?'"

"You still get to know the characters so well because of the leisurely pace. But you really get stuck into a different world – you really do time-travel back to the late 70s. And it does really have a unique voice."



Ted Danson stars in Fargo, Monday, Channel 4, 10pm

BEST OF THE REST

**MONDAY**  
**SAS: Who Dares Wins Channel 4, 9pm**  
New series. Selection for the SAS is one of the world's toughest job interviews and physical fitness is one basic requirement, but what's really being tested is psychological resilience and character as candidates undergo sleep deprivation, interrogation and a series of increasingly complex mind games. In this programme, ex-special forces soldiers recreate the selection process for 30 civilian men, with the first episode seeing the recruits arrive at an isolated barracks in Wales and are introduced to directing staff Fox, Ollie and Colin, under the watchful eye of chief instructor Ant.

**TUESDAY**  
**Building Cars Live BBC2, 7.30pm**  
Contrary to what some people may think or say – the British car manufacturing industry is in pretty good shape. Every 20 seconds, a brand new vehicle rolls off the production line somewhere in Britain. This new two-part documentary takes viewers into the fascinating world of the car manufacturing industry, with presenters James May, Kate Humble and Ant Anstead broadcasting live from one of Britain's biggest and busiest car

factories. The trio will go behind the scenes to reveal the science, engineering and people that keep us on the road, with access all areas to BMW's MINI plant in Oxford, the oldest car manufacturing site in Europe, with production dating back over 100 years, where a car is built every 67 seconds, which is less time than it takes to boil a kettle.

**WEDNESDAY**  
**DIY SOS: Homes for Veterans BBC1, 8pm**  
Nick Knowles and the team continue with their most ambitious project to date, with the assistance of the local community and two royal helpers, Prince William and Prince Harry. The second edition sees them create a home for a veteran, who is a triple amputee after an IED blew up in Afghanistan. They are also aiming to renovate the fronts of the houses on the street and put in new utilities, as well as creating a lasting legacy in the form of a support centre, which will help other veterans find homes and jobs.



Building Cars Live, Tuesday, BBC2, 7.30pm

**THURSDAY**  
**My Son the Jihad Channel 4, 9pm**  
In 2009, 19-year-old Thomas Evans from Buckinghamshire converted to Islam, adopting the name of Abdul Hakim. Two years later, he left his family home in Buckinghamshire to travel to Somalia where he became the only known white British man to join Al Shabaab, an Al Qaeda affiliate jihadi group behind multiple atrocities, including the 2013 Westgate shopping attack in Kenya. This documentary was filmed over a nine-month period and charts the struggle his mother Sally and younger brother Micheal face as they try to reconcile the Thomas they knew – a loving, mild-mannered teenager – with Abdul, the jihadi-preaching fundamentalist he has become. While Micheal, who had previously been close to his sibling, often refuses to speak to him when he calls, Sally refuses to give up on her son.

**FRIDAY**  
**The CIA Kennedy Killing: Conspiracy Channel 5, 8pm**  
There have been countless documentaries about the conspiracy theories surrounding the assassination of John F Kennedy, but this programme focuses on death of his brother, Robert, who shot in 1968. His killer, Sirhan Sirhan has spent the best part of 50 years in prison for the murder, but this programme looks at the claims that he himself was the victim of a Manchurian Candidate-style brainwashing. The programme also examines the conspiracy theories concerning other high-profile deaths, including that of TV presenter Jill Dando in 1999, and the suicide of British weapons inspector Dr David Kelly. There's also a look at claims that the CIA made more than 600 attempts to assassinate former Cuban president Fidel Castro, plotting to use everything from an exploding cigar to a bacteria-impregnated wetsuit.

**The Graham Norton Show BBC1, 10.35pm**  
A James Bond special, with guests Daniel Craig and Naomie Harris, who star as 007 and Miss Moneypenny in the latest release Spectre. Plus, in a live world exclusive, singer Sam Smith performs the theme to the movie.

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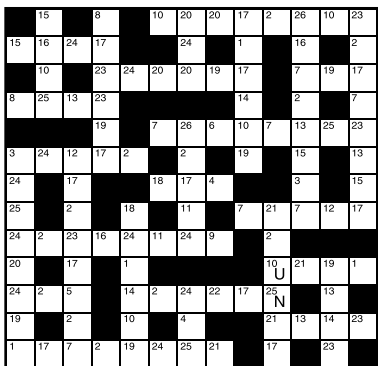
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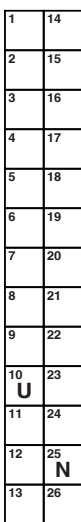
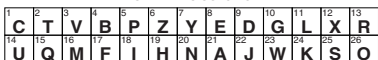
BRAIN GYM No.347

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:



Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

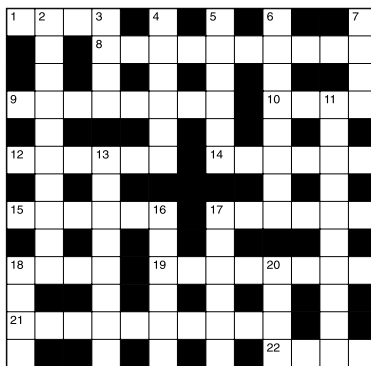
Cryptic Clues:

Across

- 1. Mail could have originated in Peru (4)
- 8. Sign of a poet completely lacking inspiration? (5,5)
- 9. E.g. a thief to catch a thief? (4,4)
- 10. Help to place a wager (4)
- 12. Said my alarm went off (6)
- 14. Recaps outrageous escapade (6)
- 15. Lots go under it (6)
- 17. On receiving flower, doctor becomes crabbed (6)
- 18. Incline to be thin (4)
- 19. Rave about big town in truth (8)
- 21. Case against the prisoner? (10)
- 22. Coil with a blow? (4)

Down

- 2. Suggest I'd go in to frighten (10)
- 3. Skilful sailor takes on the French (4)
- 4. It provides a star-studded cast for the viewer (6)
- 5. Presumably they help one to look slippery (6)
- 6. Does he mend broken marriages? (8)
- 7. Give a victory roll on the drums? (4)
- 11. Elucidation of former place (10)
- 13. Impetus for more than a short time (8)
- 16. Let the cat out of the bag about meat (6)
- 17. Spoil drink at the rim (6)
- 18. Does he travel up by train? Don't believe him! (4)
- 20. Manners, so to speak (4)



Quick Clues:

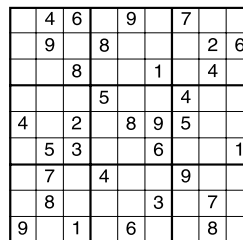
Across

- 1. Platform (4)
- 8. Victorious (10)
- 9. Finished (8)
- 10. Sleigh (4)
- 12. Ready (6)
- 14. Show (6)
- 15. Still (6)
- 17. Threefold (6)
- 18. Sour (4)
- 19. Attend (8)
- 21. Abusive (10)
- 22. Frank (4)

Down

- 2. Dictatorial (10)
- 3. Cease (4)
- 4. Noiseless (6)
- 5. Hinder (6)
- 6. Punish (8)
- 7. Boss (4)
- 11. Great merit (10)
- 13. Bullfighters (8)
- 16. Perpetrate (6)
- 17. Ligament (6)
- 18. Too (4)
- 20. Mediocre (2-2)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >



LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 7 Raise; 8 Outlook; 9 Ah-leh; 10 Corps; 12 Economical; 15 Second hand; 18 Shops; 19 Ducking; 21 Concern; 22 Point. Down: 1 Broadcasts; 2 Tight; 3 Hebe; 4 Modern; 5 Stockman; 6 Correct; 11 Sole rights; 13 Car-sister; 14 Account; 16 Hiding; 17 Mimic; 20 Cope. QUICK - Across: 7 Force; 8 Adipose; 9 Example; 10 Limit; 12 Dissidence; 15 Astrologer; 18 Extra; 19 Fitness; 21 Protein; 22 Place. Down: 1 El-ternitate; 2 Great; 3 Help; 4 Wagers; 5 Dislodge; 6 Comment; 11 Trespasser; 13 Isolated; 14 Station; 16 Offend; 17 Regal; 20 Type.

Thinking space

Quiz

- 1. In the Bible, who owned the vineyard adjoining King Ahab's palace?
- 2. What sort of bird is a yaffle?
- 3. Who were the handmaidens of Odin who served at the Valhalla banquets?
- 4. In which city is Yeshiva University?
- 5. In which country was the first British atomic missile exploded in 1953?
- 6. On which instrument was the 'Harry Lime Theme' played?
- 7. What art gallery is situated at Millbank, London?
- 8. Where is 'The Street Which is Called Straight'?
- 9. What does the cooking term nivernaise mean?
- 10. What, in American slang, is a 'Holy Joe'?

Last week's solutions:

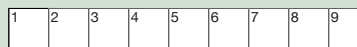
- Quiz: 1 1986; 2 Sir Robert Menzies; 3 Jim Callaghan; 4 Aaron Copland; 5 Pluto; 6 Aurora; 7 Greenland and Iceland; 8 Dromedary; 9 Futurism; 10 Henry James.

Niner: ALDERSHOT

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

- 598874 gives a game,
- 62552 gives a second game,
- 1383453 gives a third game.



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## New member for the team

Vauxhall sales have rarely been stronger than they are now, so T. Wall Vauxhall has been recruiting more members of the sales team. Paul Westwood has now arrived at the Kingswinford dealership to take up his role as a member of the sales force bringing with him around 20 years vehicle retailing experience gained mainly at the Brindley Group.

Paul's knowledge and expertise was gained through working with the Ford, Toyota, Citroen and Vol-

vo franchises. He held the position of sales manager at the group's Citroen franchise for 18 months but left the company taking on a new challenge.

He returned for a second spell with the company by becoming a part of the firm's Volvo sales team. Within 12 months he'd worked his way up to the position of sales manager.

Paul has also been an Accredited Motability Specialist for more than a decade. He'll take time to find and explain the various options open to Motability customers and works to match their individual needs, his vast product knowledge coming into play.

Paul's friendly demeanour and excellent customer service skills have

brought him many loyal customers. Paul says: "It's really gratifying when customers actually seek you out personally when they wish to purchase a car. And it's good to have confidence in the products that you sell."

"I'm excited to be involved with the Vauxhall brand. The manufacturer is producing some terrific products right now, and more are just around the corner, new models such as the seventh generation Astra. It's just stunning to look at and extremely competitive when it comes to running costs, spacious, performance, handling and style."

"Here's more good news," says Paul. "It's mainly British as both the hatch and estate versions are produced at Ellesmere Port."

## Knowledge big benefit

With around 32 years motor industry experience to call upon Mark Johnson has joined the sales team at T. Wall Vauxhall in Pensnett, Kingswinford. An ex-Brindleys Group employee for around 20 years, Mark held various positions within the company, working his way up to the ranks to become sales manager, and then general manager.

Mark's product knowledge is very considerable, particularly when it comes to Vauxhall, Citroen, Volkswagen and Audi, as these have been the franchises that he has been deeply involved with. Mark has also been employed at Wolverhampton Motor Services where he was responsible for the sale of many Volkswagen and Audi cars.

A resident of Wolverhampton, Mark is delighted to have joined the sales operation at T. Wall Vauxhall.

He says: "I've been made to feel very welcome by my colleagues in the sales team."

"It's an excellent company to be working for and shares my passion for customer care, where the requirements of every customer are always paramount."

He continues: "With a stream of brand new models having been released, and yet more on the way, it's an exciting time to be representing Vauxhall."

"The release of the all-new Astra is almost upon us and we're all working hard to prepare for this sleek new model's official showroom launch."

Over the years Mark has gained a substantial following with car buyers actually seeking him out as they like dealing with him.

"I've only been here at T. Wall for a couple of weeks," he says, "but I'm already meeting customers from the past."

"It's essential to enjoy meeting people in this job, and of course, I'm looking forward to meeting new customers too."



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Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (g/km). Highest: VAUXHALL Meriva 1.4i 120PS 16v Exclusive Turbo A/C with 15", 16" and 17" wheels, A6: Urban: 29.7 (9.5), Extra-urban: 49.6 (5.7), Combined: 39.8 (7.1). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions: 166g/km Lowest: VAUXHALL Viva 5 Door Hatchback 1.0i 75PS SE with Eco Tyre 14", 15" and 16" wheels, M5: Urban: 52.3 (5.4), Extra-urban: 76.3 (3.7), Combined: 65.7 (4.3). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions: 99g/km.

Official EU-regulated test data are provided for comparison purposes and actual performance will depend on driving style, road conditions and other non-technical factors. Offers subject to availability, terms and conditions. Pictures for illustration purposes only.





# Exclusivity and luxury in new SUV from Bentley

Bentley Motors has announced full details of its new model, the Bentayga which combines luxury with effortless performance and everyday usability. With an all-new W12 powertrain, the Bentayga is the fastest, most powerful, most luxurious and most exclusive SUV in the world. It offers a true Bentley driving experience and showcases innovative technology features.

Designed, engineered and handcrafted in Crewe, the Bentayga's styling is pure Bentley. Sculptural with an elegant, timeless execution, it perfectly balances athleticism with confidence. From the four round LED headlamps and large matrix grille, to the distinctive power line and muscular haunches, the Bentley DNA is apparent throughout.

The Bentley Bentayga boasts the world's finest automotive cabin, with unrivalled levels of precision. The detailing in metal, wood and leather – including meticulous tolerances between elements of trim – is the epitome of modern British luxury.

## Refinement

An all-new twin-turbocharged 6.0-litre W12 engine is at the heart of the new Bentayga. The mighty 12-cylinder unit combines efficiency and refinement with ultra-luxurious levels of power and torque. With 608 PS (600 bhp / 447kW) and 900 Nm (663 lb. ft) delivering a 0-60 mph time of 4.0 seconds (0-100 km/h in 4.1 seconds) and a top speed of 187 mph (301 km/h), the Bentayga is the world's most powerful and fastest SUV.

A suite of state-of-the-art driver assistance systems and infotainment features designed to enhance safety, comfort and convenience make the Bentayga an innovative, advanced and connected luxury SUV.

Innovative systems available on the Bentayga include Electronic Night Vision, which uses infra-red technology to identify potential obstacles ahead, and a Head-Up Display, which reduces driver distraction and increases safety. The Bentayga's all-new, cutting-edge 8" touch screen infotainment system boasts class-leading navigation technology, a 60GB hard drive, and a choice of up to 30 languages. Rear seat passengers benefit from the introduction of the Bentley Entertainment Tablet – a removable 10.2" Android device with 4G, WiFi and Bluetooth for effortless, high-speed on-board connectivity.

Customers can choose between three different sound systems for the Bentayga: Bentley Standard Audio, Bentley Signature Audio and Naim for Bentley Premium Audio. The latter is the most powerful system in the segment, with 1,950 watts, a network of 18 speakers and super-tweeters for unrivalled recreation of the highest audio frequencies.

A combination of advanced design, innovative engineering and state-of-the-art manufacturing technologies – including the use of lightweight aluminium – has enabled a total weight saving of 236kg compared to a traditional body construction.

## Finest

Step inside the new Bentayga and you find the finest automotive interior in the world, with handcrafted wood and leather throughout – engineered with precision to deliver absolute perfection. The attention to detail in metal, wood and leather is the epitome of modern British luxury, and is only achievable thanks to the exceptional skill of the workforce in Crewe.

Sumptuous front seats, individually handcrafted in Crewe and featuring 22-way adjustment including adjustable cushion and backrest bolsters, provide superb support and comfort for all conditions. This cosseted feeling is further enhanced with a six-programme massage system, seat heating and ventilation.

Whether selected in four or five-seat configuration, all of the leather seats in the Bentayga are available with contrast stitching and a quilted diamond design applied to the 'shoulders' and bolsters, echoing the design of a finely tailored British hunting jacket.

Never before has a vehicle so coherently combined genuine luxury with go-anywhere driving ability. The development programme for the Bentayga has been the most exhaustive in the Bentley brand's history, ranging across five continents.

From the dirt and gravel of South Africa and the dunes of Dubai, to the muddy fields of Cheshire, and from -30°C in the frozen North Cape to searing 50°C desert heat, the Bentayga's ability to perform on any surface and even in the most extreme conditions has been proven.

The Bentayga redefines personalisation and bespoke luxury. Paint, leather, veneer and lifestyle options are unlimited and tailored to the individual.

As with all Bentleys, the Bentayga can also be handed over to the highly skilled and dedicated craftspeople at Mulliner, who will respond to bespoke customer requirements.

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# DS5 is a stylish class act

By John Griffiths

**A car's styling is, to a great extent, a matter of personal choice: you love it, hate it or are left completely unmoved.**

For me, the DS5 comes in that first category and that applies particularly to the car's interior – a mix of exclusive club lounge and aircraft cockpit. It's a pleasant, even exciting, place to be even before you press the starter button.

I've been trying self-analysis with regard to this response. Is it just different, and new (as any car can be) or is there a hint of repressed nostalgia for that iconic French motor of the 50s and 60s, the Citroën DS?

To me that legendary motor, while not without its issues, was a real innovator: space age looks yet a world away from the winged wonders inspired by American cars of that era. Plus it pioneered innovative features such as hydraulic self-levelling suspension and directional headlights.

Now DS Automobiles is a stand-alone premium brand under the Citroën umbrella. Like Toyota with Lexus and Nissan with Infiniti, such a rebranding of flagship models is undoubtedly a sensible way of breaking the badge domination of the premium German brands, and Jaguar, in this sector.

The DS5 tested – Prestige Blue 180bhp version – at £32,040 is a prime example, a big, smooth and economical car oozing Gallic style which will certainly make its driver stand out from the crowd in the company car park. No, I can't say it looks like the original DS, but as you pass an eye over its sleek lines there are hints which stir memo-

ries for car fans of a certain age. But inside it is thoroughly modern, and unique: vive la difference, one might say.

There's the crystal clear virtual instrument display in front of the driver, while at his side is a high centre console (no, not a transmission tunnel as it's front wheel drive) which means the array of switches and gear change level fall easily to hand, just in the right place. All switches are big and solid, with chromed rims.

Overhead there are front and rear sun roofs (with electrically controlled blinds) which makes the cabin feel light and airy, and give an impression that its even bigger than it actually is – in fact the DS5 will seat five adults in comfort.

In front, the sun roof is split into two (both can be opened and closed individually) divided by an aircraft style roof console, housing more toggle switches and controls.

The seats themselves are superbly shaped, well-padded leather and multi-adjustable – some of the most comfortable I can recall.

There is a seven-inch touch screen in the centre of the dashboard, controlling satnav, audio, trip computer and a range of other vehicle functions, plus a steering wheel with remote controls. Dual zone automatic climate control, noise-reducing window glass and an upmarket sound system are also part of the luxury package.

Under the bonnet there's a two-litre turbo diesel, turning out 180bhp and a whopping 400Nm of torque which is a good combination for smooth, swift progress, with good response at low revs, it's quiet, too, rarely raising its voice above a whisper and the ride is particularly supple and comfortable, a true descendant of the DS philosophy.

Its vital statistics are 0 to 62mph in 9.9 sec-



.....  
**'Is there a hint of repressed nostalgia for that iconic French motor of the 50s and 60s, the Citroën DS?'**  
.....

onds, official average fuel consumption of 64.2mpg and (for a car of this size) an impressively low and tax-efficient CO2 rating of 114g/km.

The six-speed torque converter automatic gear box does its job well enough although it isn't perhaps as responsive as some of the latest dual clutch systems if you're pushing on. But then I'm not sure if this is part of the DS5's character: it's a car which seems more about the smooth, relaxed covering of distance rather than the traffic lights grand prix.

There's a long list of standard equip-

ment, including cruise control front and rear parking sensors, rear parking camera, stability control, emergency brake assist, hill start assist, automatic headlights, and door mirrors with kerb lighting.

The other DS5 in Prestige Blue trim is the 2.0 litre six-speed manual, 150bhp model which starts from £29,560. The range has a three year, 60,000 mile warranty.

The DS5 is a class act, offering a blend of performance with economy and tax efficiency. You could say many new cars do that – and that's true, but in the DS you do it in style, and dare to be different.

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Centre, Sun, 18th October, Est  
1978 Waverley. 0121 550 4123  
Antique/collect fair, Sun 1st & 29th Nov  
(also Bromsgrove every Fri)

markets

**BESCOT  
SUNDAY MARKET  
OPEN EVERY SUNDAY**  
Banks' s Stadium, Walsall FC  
WS1 4SA, FREE PARKING, J9 M6  
07889 915701 All hard standing

**3**  
Home &  
Services

antiques

**CHIFFONIER STAND** drawers,  
doors and mirror, Victorian, £700  
ono. 01902 339825.

furniture

**CHESTERFIELD BURGUNDY**  
leather 3 seater settee, club chair  
and winged chair. £500. 07951  
099800 or 01384 386279.

**DECORO LEATHER 3** piece suite,  
3+1+1 reclining chairs, as new  
unused, cost £1250 sell £595.  
07442 091546.

**NEW STYLE** Italian table and chairs,  
cost £4,000, sell £350. Italian Wall  
unit, bow fronted. £100.  
07950 418286

**OLD CHARM REFRACTORY  
TABLE**  
With two carvers and four  
diners.  
Well looked after.  
Excellent condition. £400.  
Coven 01902 798468.

**PARKER KNOLL**, new, never used,  
electric reclining chairs x 2. Cost  
£350 each sell for £250 each, can  
split. Space needed. 01902 324446

**TWO MAHOGANY** display cabinets  
and matching wall pendulum clock,  
excellent condition. £30 ono.  
Telephone 07908 906406.

household  
appliances

**FRIDGE FREEZER**, in excellent  
condition, £85. Can deliver.  
07550 891752.

**FRIDGE FREEZER**, in excellent  
condition, £95. Can deliver.  
07550 891752.

**GAS COOKER** Cannon, brown,  
immaculate condition, double oven,  
timer, grill. £175. 01902 384524.

**MULTIFUEL STOVE**  
Harmony 23, wood or multifuel,  
heat output 6kW.  
Good condition.  
£400 ono.  
01902 895014.

in your garden

**WINTER HANGING BASKETS**,  
flowering bags and tubs. Reduced  
prices from £2.50. 01902 762500.

items for sale

**HAVE YOU CHECKED** your adver-  
tisement today? We would respect-  
fully remind advertisers that it is  
their responsibility to inform the  
publishers of any mistakes or inac-  
curacies on the first day of publica-  
tion.

items wanted

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**A GENUINE LADY BUYER**  
All Beswick • Doulton • Worcester  
Moorcroft • Lladro • Old coins  
• Watches • Costume Jewellery • Old toys  
• Clocks • Paintings • All silver  
• Chinese items • Old Ivory  
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Pre 47 silver coins All war medals etc  
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INTERESTING**  
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**FOR ALL RAILWAY  
COLLECTIONS**  
Any gauge or age  
Hornby / Bachmann / Bowmans  
/ Roundhouse / Graham / Farsh  
/ any live steam. Also Die Cast,  
Corgi, Dinky, Spot On.  
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thetrainmaster67@  
hotmail.com

**AIR RIFLES, SHOT GUNS**, Antique  
guns, taxidermy- big bore guns,  
traps etc wanted. 07858 52402.

**FOOTBALL PROGRAMMES**  
Wanted. Cash paid for pre 1970.  
Large collections. (300+). After  
1870 considered. 0208 5607816.

**READERS ARE ADVISED** to care-  
fully consider all of their options  
before agreeing to the sale of any of  
their items.

**SPECTRUM GAMES** wanted.  
Please call  
01902 892918.

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**VINTAGE TOYS**  
Top prices paid!!!  
Action Man/Diecast/Lego/  
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concrete posts, gravel boards &  
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01902 830870 / 01384 940260.

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AFFORDABLE SKIPS  
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**4**  
Pets &  
Animals

guns & dogs

**NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS**  
Advertisers must ensure that  
they meet all necessary legal  
requirements for owning and  
using guns.

## equestrian corner

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check if Horses have the required  
Passport information.

vets

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pets corner

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Please be aware that when  
purchasing a puppy there are  
some simple guidelines you can  
follow to ensure that you are not  
purchasing from a Puppy  
Farmer.

1. Try to ensure you visit the  
puppy whilst it is still with it's  
Mother.

2. Do not arrange to collect a  
puppy from any other location  
than that of the breeder.

3. Ensure that you are given any  
KC documentation, if pedigree.  
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Association publications take  
great care to avoid publication  
of advertisements from Puppy  
Farmers we cannot accept any  
liability should readers  
purchase from this kind of  
establishment.

**CANARIES FOR SALE** Red  
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business  
opportunities

**READERS** are recommended to  
take appropriate professional  
advice before entering any  
obligations.

**5**  
Business &  
Farming

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SELL LOCAL**

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**6**

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# 2

days

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# 6

**Property**

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**NOTICE TO READERS** It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

**HEATH TOWN WOLVERHAMPTON.**

Applicants are invited for occupation of an Alms House by local retired people who have a housing need.

One bedroom centrally heated cottage.

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**overseas property**

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# 7

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Good rates of pay & working conditions

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or telephone 0121 559 4211

**NISSAN ALMERA S 52 reg.** 57k, blue, electric windows, air con, metallic paint, 2 new tyres, 12 months MoT, £750 ono. 07527 729428.

**NISSAN ALMERA 53 reg.** full MoT, very good condition, new tyres, brakes, 1500cc £895. 07827 059501.

**PEUGEOT 206CC 03 reg.** MoT till March 2016, silver, 33,000 miles, good condition. £700 ono. 07543 905312.

**RENAULT LAGUNA 1.9 ESTATE** diesel, 03, 11 months MoT, reliable, high motorway miles hence £500. 07957 617779 / 01902 609608.

**RENAULT MEGANE SCENIC** Fijdi 1.4, 03, 77,892 miles, metallic blue, MoT May 2016, alloys, £550 ono. 07837 189722.

**SKODA FABIA 1.4, silver, 5dr, MoT** Feb 2016, good runner, good condition, 2650 ono. 01902 826438. 07411 733865.

**VAUXHALL CORSA 1.0 1999,** new MoT, 84k miles, tidy car, excellent runner, £395. 07983 421402.

**VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 3dr hatch,** T reg, burgundy, 64,000 miles, 7 months MoT, good condition, £500. 07968 905654.

**VAUXHALL CORSA** Design, 1.2, low mileage 31,000, 2008 reg, very good condition, MoT April 2016, blue, £3,500. 07736 828479.

**VAUXHALL CORSA** Twinport, 1.2, 05 reg, 5 dr hatch, MoT March 16, very clean inside / out, £1,295 ono. Part ex welcome. 01384 294227.

**VOLVO 850, 1994,** 89,000 miles, silver, electric windows, alarm, central locking, pas, sunroof, used daily. £400 ono. 01384 294227.

**VW GOLF 02, 1.9TDI,** 12 months MoT, well maintained, £1,050 o.n.o. 07886 179984.

**VW POLO 1.2E 2003, (53 Reg),** black, 3Dr, low mileage 49k, full MoT, good condition, drives well, £1,100 ono 07958 445720.

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**MODERN TWO BED** Apartment, ground floor, Dudley Port, 479p.m. No DSS. 07886 357429.

**ONE BED** flat, furnished, Lower Green, Tettenhall. 01902 744700 / 07765 964999.

**ONE BED FLAT** Netherton, CH, DG, £100pw. Deposit required. 07976 747022.

**SMART ROOMS** in shared house. Netherton. From £85 pw inc bills. No DSS. Small deposit 07970 717139

**TO LET** Large bedsit Penn area, newly decorated, unfurnished, off road parking, deposit required, suit working person. 07486 373415

**TWO BED HOUSE** Unfurnished. Stephens Close, Ashmore Park, £550pcm. DSS ok, avail early Nov Call City Lettings 0121 296 9866

**overseas property**

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**NOTICE TO READERS** Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

# 8

**Motoring**

**cars under £1500**

**ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED** that the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

**FORD FOCUS DIESEL ESTATE 1.8** TDI Ghia. 02 reg, silver. Very reliable. Some Service History. £795. Genuine calls only. 07850 330 251

**FORD FOCUS ZETEC ESTATE X** reg, MoT March, runner or ideal for spares or repair. £600 ono. 07879 652616

**FORD KA 2007 reg,** 1200, full MoT, silver, drives / looks superb, 52,000 miles. £1,195. 07523 729551.

**FORD MONDEO 2.0LX TDCI 2005,** new clutch, full exhaust, MoT July 2016. £1,050.

**FORD MONDEO ESATE 2002** petrol, 6 months MoT, 110,000 miles. £450 ono. 01902 745980 / 07561 273529

**FORD MONDEO Hatch,** 1800 petrol, 10 months MoT, blue, good condition, CD, reliable, £395. 07870 887220.

**HYUNDAI ACCENT,** 2001, 81,000 miles, red, long MoT, £295. 07759 839786.

**HYUNDAI GETZ 5-door,** 05 plate, 1100cc. MoT August 2016, good condition £725 ono. 07760 887220.

**JAGUARS-TYPE 3.0 V6 SE,** 51 reg, 11 months MoT, fish, good looking motor, £1,000 no offers. 01902 785453 (Whampton).

**LANDROVER DISCOVERY 1994,** 190,000 miles. Spares and repairs. New parts, good engine, chassis and body. £750 ono. 07807 348239.

**LANDROVER DISCOVERY 1994,** no MoT, parts or restoration, runs £390 ono. 01902 608040 / 07870 925695.

**MITSUBISHI SPACESTAR 1.9TD,** 5 seater MPV, 73k, 13 months MoT, 1 owner, full electrics, good condition, 54 reg. £1495. 07756 843196. 268149.

**FORD FIESTA 1300,** 51 plate, eight months MoT, runs very well, reliable, CD player, sunroof, four good tyres, £400. 07818 091901.

**cars over £1500**

**AUDI A4 S-LINE CONVERTIBLE**

Black, FSH, MoT, 2008, 73,000 miles, alloy wheels, leather interior, diesel, 2.0. £9,000. 07528 069018.

**BMW 318CI COUPE**

2 litre petrol, 2005, graphite metallic, MoT, s/h, 24,500 miles, immaculate original condition, lady owner, genuine calls only. £3,500. Telephone 07702 476031.

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**ONE BED FLAT** Netherton, CH, DG, £100pw. Deposit required. 07976 747022.

**SMART ROOMS** in shared house. Netherton. From £85 pw inc bills. No DSS. Small deposit 07970 717139

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**CITROEN PICASSO 1.6,** MoT'd till feb 2016, 52 reg, air con, elec windows, average mileage. £989. 01902 895796.

**FIAT PUNTO** Blue, 5-dr, Excellent runner, low mileage, 1 reg, MoT'd Serviced regularly. £350. 07775 268149.

**FORD FIESTA 1300,** 51 plate, eight months MoT, runs very well, reliable, CD player, sunroof, four good tyres, £400. 07818 091901.

**ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED** that the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

**BMA** Est. Here 25 Years

**A WIDE RANGE OF CARS UNDER £1,000**

Open every day, Full MOT's

**01902 490555**

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**www.bma-motors.co.uk**

**CITROEN PICASSO 1.6,** MoT'd till feb 2016, 52 reg, air con, elec windows, average mileage. £989. 01902 895796.

**FIAT PUNTO** Blue, 5-dr, Excellent runner, low mileage, 1 reg, MoT'd Serviced regularly. £350. 07775 268149.

**FORD FIESTA 1300,** 51 plate, eight months MoT, runs very well, reliable, CD player, sunroof, four good tyres, £400. 07818 091901.

**cars over £1500**

**AUDI A4 S-LINE CONVERTIBLE**

Black, FSH, MoT, 2008, 73,000 miles, alloy wheels, leather interior, diesel, 2.0. £9,000. 07528 069018.

**BMW 318CI COUPE**

2 litre petrol, 2005, graphite metallic, MoT, s/h, 24,500 miles, immaculate original condition, lady owner, genuine calls only. £3,500. Telephone 07702 476031.

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Plus  
6 nights free if you do not sell.

## CALL

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**CITROEN BERLINGO** Multipurpose Desire, 07 reg, 1.6HDI, 75bhp, 21,334 miles, FSH, met reg, MoT June 2016, £4,500, 01384 394422.

**FIAT 500**, 2009, 1.2 Pop, 40,000 miles, white, abs, pas, electric windows, central locking, ish, MoT, ideal 1st car, £4,200, 07979 240484.

**FIAT PANDA LOUNGE** 2013, 1.2, 1 owner. Still under manufacturers warranty, 6,600 miles, £30 tax, FSH, height adjustable drivers seat, Remote locking, A/C, alloys, E/W, £4,900. No offers.

**Kidderminster 07788 990608**

**MAZDA 3 TS**, 5-dr Hatch, met blue, 2006, climate control, low miles, SH, MoT Sep 16, Excellent condition, £2,400, 01384 401209.

**MINI COOPER**, 2007, 1,200,000 miles, blue with white roof, white stripes, two new tyres, MoT, company car forces reluctant sale, £3,800, 07930 480908.

**MINI ONE**, 2005, Diesel, full MoT, 120k, red/white, excellent condition, £2,995, 07442 901546.

**NISSAN NOTE TEKNA**, 2008, 65,000 miles, auto, silver, electric windows, alarm, MoT, central locking, pas, CD, £3,000 one, 07352 659597.

**PEUGEOT 208**, 2013, 1.4 petrol, 3dr Active, 18k, graphite, warranty to 2016, 1 owner, ish, excellent condition, £5,995, 07703 540507.



**RENAULT CLIO 1.2** Hatchback 3 door. Immaculate condition, (2006 55) plate, 44,000 genuine miles, 2 lady owners, service history and 12 months MoT. £1,550 ono.

Telephone: 07534 520989

**VAUXHALL COMBO** 2008, 98,884 miles, white, long MoT, pas, diesel, digital radio, hands free kit. Excellent Van £1,800 ono 07572 422525.

**WANTED, CLASSIC Cars**, Private cash buyer. Instant cash settlement. Any age. Any condition. 01630 652993 or 07733 462797.

## commercial vehicles

**BARGAIN VANS** small /medium /large £995-£5995 inc vat 12mth MoT. 01902 451877/07944 640999

**PEUGEOT PARTNER 1.9 DIESEL** excellent condition, 1998, 9 months MoT, fully maintained, only used for fishing. £750. 07306 003210.

**SUZUKI 1.3 Super Carrier Van**, MoT, one owner, used daily, must sell, £600 ono. Telephone 01902 843374.

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## motorbikes

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**KAWASAKI ZR 750F T** reg, good condition, MoT'd, 23,000 miles, new chain sprockets, £800 ono. 07754 121452.

## scrap vehicles

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# 34 Swimmers come from behind to take first round

HALESOWEN swimmers travelled to Wolverhampton for the first round of the National League at the weekend.

As expected the quality of the competition in the Premier division was high, and after 10 races Long Eaton were in front, City of Hereford second and Halesowen third.

Halesowen swimmers fought back, winning some crucial races and by the half way point were ahead of second place Long Eaton by five points.

However, City of Hereford were not giving up and after 42 races had moved into second place reducing Halesowen's lead to four points.

Halesowen extended their lead as they raced to the end of the gala, winning the final relay, whilst Long Eaton and City of Hereford fought for second. This was a great start for Halesowen and a superb team victory.

Final points scores were: Halesowen 206, Long Eaton A 199, City of Hereford 193, Stourbridge A 187, Wolverhampton 157, Mansfield 103.

Double individual event winners were Niamh Larkin in the 50m backstroke and butterfly, Chloe Finch in the 100m butterfly and freestyle, and Robert Jennings in the 100m backstroke and butterfly.

Other individual event winners were Jacob Bailey in the 50m backstroke, and Jack Simpson and Kate Morris in the 100m freestyle.

The relay teams put on a fine show with the girls winning the medley relay in the 9-11 and 13 years age group events, including Eleanor Stark, Chloe Everton, Libby Hickman, Amber Harrison, Olivia Jay and Georgia Lees.

The boys relay teams went one better winning the 15 years freestyle, the open age group medley and the mixed age 6x2 relays.

# Big Dave has the academy solution

**RELISHING his unique coaching role that spans Albion's first team, the under-21s, and the under-18s, Darren Moore reckons he has the solution for the 'academy problem'.**

In the past, manager Tony Pulis has criticised the under-21s league for not being strong enough to push players into the first team, but the man nicknamed Big Dave by Albion fans believes rewarding the top two teams in that league with spots in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy is the answer.

"I understand exactly what the gaffer means," said the former centre-back. "Having a foot in the first-team camp and having a foot in the academy 21s camp, it's hard, because how do you replicate 30 or 40,000 people on a Saturday? The grounds that we play at are smaller."

Matching up against the greater physicality of sides in League One and below could be the answer, and although the early rounds may not necessarily draw the crowds, there's potential to play in front of some big numbers in the latter stages.

"To actually go and play physically against those teams, I think that would create a replica," said Moore. "That way a lot of the under-21s league would probably keep more of their better players in to keep those top two spots. Going all the way to a Wembley final with the kids, what better way to replicate it?"

"The under-21s league will return back to what it used to be, which was really competitive football. I think we've lost a little bit of the edge by trying to replicate it, but we're missing something in between. If rules are done like that, it would lift the clubs."

"So I can understand the gaffer's frustration and I can understand it having a foot in both camps because the Premier League is a ferocious beast at the moment and it gets bigger and bigger every year, the players get better and better every year. Tactically, there's no room for error, and that's why the young lads have to be at such a good standard."



Darren Moore celebrates scoring one of his six goals for Albion during his five-year playing career

# Defending trio racing to be fit to face Cats

ALBION'S defence could be down to the bare bones for Sunderland's visit to The Hawthorns on Saturday, with both Johnny Evans and Jonas Olsson facing a race to be fit this week.

Evans missed both of Northern Ireland's European qualifiers with a hamstring injury while Olsson continues to be monitored for a groin injury.

Midfielder James Morrison is also a doubt for Sam Allardyce's first game in charge of the Black Cats with an ankle injury.

"We're hoping everyone returns back OK," said manager Tony Pulis. "Evans and Morrison are still being assessed. We will see how they are but both are doubts."

If Olsson and Evans are both unavailable, Pulis may have to turn to James Chester, who he hopes has been given a boost by Wales qualifying for the European Championships.

Although the £8m signing has found it tough so far this season the manager hopes qualifying for Euro 2016 with Wales will lift his fellow countryman's spirits.

"To see Wales and Northern Ireland qualify is wonderful," said Pulis. "To have so many home nations at the Euros next summer will be good. I hope we will see a reaction from those players – if we do, brilliant."

"We will see on Saturday how much of a boost it is for the lads who have qualified."

A club official yesterday dismissed reports that Albion are interested in spending £14.8million on Spanish defensive midfielder Ignacio Camacho in January.

● Albion's game against Liverpool at Anfield has been moved back 24 hours to Sunday December 13 at 4pm for Sky coverage.

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## Depleted Brummies end season with a loss

BIRMINGHAM'S season ended in defeat as an understrength side went down 52-37 at Eastbourne.

Following Wednesday's first leg four-point loss, the Surestop Brummies always faced an uphill task and missed out on the Gold Cup after a 99-80 aggregate defeat.

Team manager Graham Drury says his side shouldn't dwell on the results too much after what has been a memorable season.

"Full congratulations to Eastbourne - they were the better side over the two legs and fully deserved to win this competition.

"When they qualified for the Gold Cup they were always going to be the favourites and full credit to them."

Adam Ellis eased his way to double-figures one final time in Birmingham colours, only being denied another full maximum after blowing his engine whilst leading the opening heat. He also broke the Arlington track record as he showed his National League superiority once again.

Captain Tom Perry impressed with some classy rides on one of his least favourite circuits.

Danny Ayres gave it his all once again on another mixed night for the Kent racer.

Jack Kirby's gating was a particular highlight yet again and his effort cannot be faulted, especially after pushing his machine home for a point for almost a whole lap in his one outing.

Adam Kirby picked up four-points as he claimed the tag of Birmingham's only ever present rider in 2015.

Eastbourne 52: Richard Andrews 12+3, Bradley Wilson-Dean 11+1, Ben Hopwood 9, Marc Owen 8+1, Daniel Spiller 8, Kelsey Dugard 4+3, Georgie Wood 0.

Birmingham 37: Adam Ellis 12, Tom Perry 10, Danny Ayres 6, Jack Smith 4+1, Adam Kirby 4, Jack Parkinson-Blackburn 1+1, Sam Chapman 1/1.

Eastbourne win 99-80 on aggregate.

# Sam warning to players from Pulis

**TONY Pulis will warn his players to beware the Sam Allardyce effect and believes the new Sunderland boss will have the Black Cats firing at The Hawthorns on Saturday.**

Sunderland are 19th, and without a win this season as Dudley-born Allardyce was officially unveiled as their new manager this week, and he now has just a few days to turn his team into one that can trouble Albion - and Pulis doesn't doubt that he will.

"I know Sam well," said the Baggies manager.

"I don't think he gets the credit he deserves.

"He did a smashing job at West Ham and you know his teams are always well drilled and well organised.

"People forget that when they got relegated, he got them promoted in the first year and they kicked on from there.

"He laid down the groundwork for the next manager who is reaping the rewards."

Although the appointment is undoubtedly good news for fans of the red and white, it couldn't have come at a worse time for those following blue and white stripes.

## Performance

In dire need of a win, and perhaps more importantly, a performance with some attacking intent, what looked like a less taxing return to Premier League action after the international break just got a lot harder. Big Sam doesn't have a lot of time to work with his players, but then neither does Albion chief Pulis.

This week is the first time this week Pulis has seen the majority of his team, and some players are not returning until today or tomorrow.

Allardyce, who started his managerial career at The Hawthorns with a spell as Brian Talbot's assistant, has a mouthwatering derby against his old club, Newcastle, next.

## Coupe de grass in bowls final



From left, Paul Greene, chairman, Simon Coupe and Matt Taylor, All Aspects MD

### 2015 All Aspects George Masters

SIMON Coupe travelled from Lancashire and returned home with the £1,000 winner's cheque in his pocket after beating Anthony Bracken in the final.

At the George Bowling Club Coupe started the day with a 31-29 win against Paul Rolls in a game that could have gone either way up until the last

end, while Bracken defeated Gordon Hawkins 31-18. In the quarter finals Coupe beat ex-Masters winner Craig Barker 31-19 with Bracken beating Yorkshire's Neil Simpson 31-24.

Coupe hit top gear in his semi-final to take out Jon Palmer 31-8 and Bracken overcame Greg Smith 31-22. The final was a close affair but Coupe managed to up his game to be the 31-25 winner.

## Hitman's protege steals the limelight

WEDNESBURY'S Sam Evans stole the show at Walsall Football Club by scoring the fight night's only TKO with boxing legend Ricky Hatton in his corner, writes Craig Birch.

"The Hitman" has brought the Black Country teenager into the pro game and the effects of his coaching was clear to see on Saturday night's paid bow.

Hatton won British, WBF, IBO AND IBF world titles in the light welterweight division where Evans will campaign.

And the 19-year-old is off to a flying start, after forcing the finish against Latvian Zaur Sadihova in the third of a four-round contest.

Evans was measured in the first and started to land freely come the second, seizing the opportunity to land a right hook to the ribcage as they tangled at close quarters.

He listened to instructions from Hatton to step it up in the third, with Sadihova hurt and getting on his bike when referee Kevin Parker stepped in.

Evans looked Hatton-esque with the right hand to the body landing at will, with Sadihova pulled out for throwing nothing back. It was exactly halfway through the round.

Hatton had two other fighters on the show, with Market Harborough's Reuben Arrowsmith also debuting against Kevin McCauley.

Arrowsmith dropped a share of a round against the former Midlands welterweight champion, who lives in Stourbridge, in winning 40-37 on points with Parker after four.

It came after three straight points landslides starting with Stoke's Andy Keates, returning to where he won the Midlands light welterweight title from Bloxwich's Luke Paddock last month.

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# Sport

Big Dave has the  
academy answer  
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Coupe de grass in  
bowls final  
Page 35



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## DK runners do it on the dark trail

WITH the nights drawing in athletes from Dudley Kingswinford Running Club tried something a little different last weekend.

They took part in the Petzl Night Trail Wales, a relay race with laps of 3 to 4km starting at dusk and ending in full darkness with the winners covering the most number of laps in three hours.

With head torches mandatory there was a long stream of lights cutting through the darkness around the trails of the Coed Y Brenin forest.

The five runner DK team of Sarah and Pete Krivosic, Andy and Nessa Morrison and Phil Sayers covered eight laps in 2.44.12 to finish 55th out of 240 teams.

Elsewhere a handful of hoops travelled to Alcester for a 10k. Andy Litchfield recording 44.50 to take 66th place, Paula Pallant was 254th in 55.50 and Amy Bridgewater came 448th in 1.13.50.

Baljit Watson travelled to Kingston on Thames for the Human Endurance Race covering the 8.5 mile distance in 1.12. to claim first place in her age group and Mark Gatenby took part in the Plusnet Yorkshire Marathon finishing in 4.38.02 in 1211st place.

The largest race at the weekend for DK numbers wise was the Bells of Patterham, a tough off road race covering an approximate distance of 7 country miles.

First home in 5th place was Ben Foster in 43.13, Matt Biggs came 9th in 44.47, Rob Sannwald finished in 48.32 in 21st, Richard Bate in 49.12 in 26th, Simon Hughes in 49.38 in 30th, Pete Hood in 52.04 in 44th, Mark Gallimore in 52.45 in 49th Graham Wildgoose in 53.49 in 57th, Mark Homer in 54.05 in 61st, Carol Fisher in 1.00.39 in 155th, Karen Doy in 1.01.26 in 172nd.

## Jamie tumbles out of darts Masters in quarter finals

TIPTON'S Jamie Hughes surrendered a lead and tumbled out of the BDO World Masters at the quarter-final stage.

Hughes took the first set but back came Swiss thrower Thomas Junghans to win 3-1 and end his dreams of glory, writes Craig Birch.

Junghans went onto face Glen Durrant, Hughes' close friend and conqueror in his World Championship debut this year.

The Black Country darter and BDO World No 2 couldn't replicate last year's Masters run to the final, where he lost to Martin Phillips.

The 29-year-old did see the last day of play at Hull City Hall, though, in the competition which has been broadcast on Euro Sport.

It was Hughes who had to come from behind in Saturday afternoon's last 16 clash with Darius Labanaukas.

The Lithuanian led and missed darts to make it 2-0, with Hughes taking advantage to reel off three sets in succession and nudge home 3-0.

'Yozza' opened in style on Friday, whitewashing Allan Edwards 3-0.

## Old Hales take long trip to lose

Scunthorpe 24 Old Halesonians 19

HALES set off on that long painful journey to Scunthorpe for the sixth game of the season with Tom Jordan absent due to the birth of his daughter.

Also absent were backs coach Ben Barkley and wingers Luke Smith and Jay Reid (broken finger at training).

Centres Andy and Carl Robinson combined brilliantly, Carl kicked on for Andy to chase over for the first try of the day.

On 21 minutes, following pressure from the home side, and Scunthorpe gained a penalty. Further pressure resulted in the home team scoring a try.

Rugby

Hales came back on 33 minutes with a Chris Hooper penalty, but that was negated six minutes later through a Scunthorpe penalty.

Injury to Hales Second Row Guy Field forced another reshuffle, however, the second half started well with pressure for Hales and a penalty on 43 minutes by Hooper.

But more ill discipline by the visitors resulted in another successful penalty to take the score to 16-11.

Hales came back again on 53 minutes when

Hooper kicked another three pointer to close the gap further.

It looked like Hales were getting into gear. However, a moment of madness whilst only 10 metres from Hales' line, an attempt to run the ball out failed miserably when a kick would have been sufficient to relieve the pressure, meant Scunthorpe forwards had an easy time of stripping the ball from a maul for an unconverted try.

On 60 minutes Hales Scrum Half Dave Hadkiss received a yellow card.

Not to be out done Hales worked their way back up field and were awarded a penalty.

Andy Robinson scored his second try.

# YELTZ STREAK COMES TO END

Barwell 6 Halesowen 0

HALESOWEN'S run of three games unbeaten came to an end with a miserable 6-0 defeat in Leicestershire which also saw them finish with ten men.

The red card occurred on only eight minutes when Jay Denny walked for apparently stamping on Callum Woodward, with Danny Bragoli and Barwell's Nigel Julien also booked for their part in the incident.

Four minutes later, former Yeltz hero Iyseden Christie lobbed Daniel Platt from 18 yards to put Barwell one up.

Despite Halesowen putting some pressure on and going close twice, Barwell made it two on 27 minutes when Ant Carney volleyed home from the edge of the box.

Carney saw a shot hit the post before he made it three on 37 minutes after being set up by Brady Hickey.

And he made it a first half hat-trick just before the break when he cut in from the left and rounded Platt before scoring.

An unmarked Liam Kay headed home on 50 and Christie notched his second three minutes later after muscling Aaron Griffiths.

On 85 minutes, Julien was sent off for Barwell after being given his second yellow card for a trip but it was the home side who were celebrating.

Halesowen Town 3 Matlock Town 2

Halesowen grabbed a fifth win in just over 12 months against lucky-charm side Matlock and completed another double in a five-goal second half.

The Yeltz raced to establish a two-goal lead early in the second half as Matlock made a poor start defensively after the interval with Cooper's wide-angled shot saved by Willis.

Hull volleyed home the opening goal.

Bragoli soon doubled the lead.

The Gladiators pulled a goal back when captain Danny Holland nodded home.

Greg Pearson made the game safe for Halesowen.

But there was still time for Holland to score..

## Patchett breaks the silence



Gary Patchett, Centre, with manager Will Pottinger and director Nigel Pearson

GARY Patchett has broken his silence on the reasons behind Cradley Speedway chiefs pulling the plug on the club.

Patchett, along with Nigel Pearson and Chris Van Straaten, brought the Heathens back to league racing in 2010 and have enjoyed six successful seasons.

But things changed in the winter when the club lost the use of Monmore Green and switched to Perry Barr - which ruled Patchett out of meetings due to a previous dispute with stadium bosses.

Halesowen-based Patchett insists the club remains a viable venture with plenty of potential for any interested parties looking to

take them forward into next year and beyond. "There is no single reason that we have come to this decision," Patchett said.

"Nigel is ever busier with his media business which stretch much further than his involvement in speedway. He'd be foolish to neglect those and his business has to come first."

"CVS has had a torrid season at Wolverhampton and I know only too well how that feels."

"He has to ensure his business there receives his best attention. He certainly doesn't need the stress of running two clubs."

"The pressure on my two colleagues has increased considerably," he added.

## Sherwood fighting for Villa future

TIM SHERWOOD is already fighting for his Villa future, with reports suggesting the boss has just two games to save his job.

The former Tottenham boss was appointed in February and guided the Villans away from the relegation zone and to the FA Cup final.

However, since the loss of star striker Christian Benteke to Liverpool and skipper Fabian Delph to Manchester City in the summer, Villa's new-look squad have managed to win just one of their opening eight Premier League fixtures of the season - on the opening day of the campaign at newly-promoted Bournemouth.

Just a solitary point - at home to winless Sunderland - has followed since, and Villa are currently on a run of four straight league defeats, sparked by a 3-2 reverse to Leicester City in a match Villa had been leading 2-0.

Sherwood is understood to have had a meeting with chief executive Tom Fox about the run which has left the claret and blues four points adrift of Albion and mired in the relegation zone.

Although they beat Second City rivals Blues in the League Cup and threatened to get something at Anfield when going down 3-2 to Liverpool, a derby-day defeat to Albion and last Saturday's 1-0 home loss to Stoke City means Villa are already four points adrift of safety.

Sherwood has been booed off at the end of matches against Stoke and Albion, as well as at half-time against Blues.

And he admitted last week that he is still searching to come up with his best 11 after a summer overhaul of the squad in which he spent more than £50m.

Reports at the weekend suggest Villa's next two games could be crucial to Sherwood's future.

## Olsson happy for team mates trio

ALBION defender Jonas Olsson knows exactly how the club's Northern Irish trio will be feeling as they cemented their place in next year's European Championships.

Olsson was in the Swedish squad that went to Euro 2012 in Poland and Ukraine, was delighted for team-mates Jonny Evans, Chris Brunt and Gareth McAuley who helped the Ulstermen progress.

He said: "They've been flying through qualification, it was really just a matter of when they could secure it."

"I'm happy for them, they've got a lot to look forward to in the summer."

★★★

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